

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of February as Black History Month, a tradition dating back to 1926 when Carter C. Woodson set aside 1 week in February in order to honor the contributions and achievements of African-Americans, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the African-American men and women who have contributed so much to my hometown of Louisville, KY, our Nation, and to the world.

In Louisville, there have been many in the African-American community who have made invaluable contributions not just to their community, but to society as a whole. Judge Janice R. Martin, appointed to the bench by Governor Jones in March 1992, is the first African-American woman jurist to serve in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Judge Martin brings to the court a long history of involvement in many organizations, including: the Metro United Way; the Kentucky Women's Leadership; the Urban League; Dare to Care; and the Kentucky Task Force on Racial Fairness in the courts.

Dr. Joseph H. McMillan, a professor in the University of Louisville's Department of Early and Middle Childhood Education, has contributed greatly to educating all Kentuckians on matters of racial tolerance and understanding. In 1950, Dr. McMillan began his teaching career in Lake County, MI, and later became the first African-American principal in the Grand Rapids Public Schools system. Dr. McMillan has been active with the Annual National Black Family Conference in America. He has also served as chairman of the Louisville/Jefferson County Human Relations Commission, president of the Louisville Urban League, and as chairman of the Kentucky Rainbow Coalition. Dr. McMillan currently serves as a commissioner to the Kentucky State Human Rights Commission under Governor Jones.

Eleanor Forman, one of Louisville's first African-American real estate agents, focused her efforts on integrating the Louisville real estate market. At the time Ms. Forman entered the real estate profession, the white-dominated real estate market, for Ms. Forman, was a hostile environment in which to work. Prior to Ms. Forman's work, areas of the city were marked as being reserved for white real estate agents or African-American real estate agents only. Ms. Forman was also recognized as the 1994 Women of Achievement by the Business and Professional Women's group.

Other individuals who, through civic participation and education, have strived to ease tensions and empower others to follow their example include: Lyman T. Johnson, the first

African-American ever to graduate from the University of Kentucky, whose case for admittance was argued by former Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall; Ann Elmore, who, in 1994, became the first African-American woman elected to the Jefferson County Board of Education; and Evelyn L. Waldrop, whose work with the NAACP, the Urban League, the Public Works Association, and the National Council of Negro Women has set the standard for community involvement.

History shows us that as our Nation was struggling for freedom and democracy, African-Americans played invaluable roles and contributed greatly to our efforts. These contributions have been largely overlooked and such recognition is long over due.

When our Nation was in the midst of a Revolutionary War, African-Americans, such as Crispus Attucks, who died in the Boston Massacre, heeded the call to arms and did so without reservation—these men and women served as infantryman, laborers, cooks, and also as part of the Minutemen brigade. African-Americans, such as Sgt. William H. Carney, who was the first African-American to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for his efforts in the Civil War. Again, in World War I, World War II, in Korea, and in Vietnam, African-Americans served their country with honor and dedication. The memories of these men and women who have served so dutifully must never be forgotten.

Throughout our history as a nation, African-Americans answered our Nation's call to arms; however, in the area of civil rights, it took our Nation a longer period of time to answer their calls for justice and equality. Throughout the civil rights era of the 1950's and 1960's, our Government created roadblocks in the path of equality for African-Americans. These roadblocks were in the overt form of "whites only" signs in bus stations, restaurants, theaters, and hotels; in the overt form of denying African-Americans the right to vote; in the overt form of segregated schools; in the overt form of African-Americans being forced to ride in the back of the bus.

Through such legislation as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibited any public establishment from discriminating on the basis of race, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, we, as a nation, have reached a greater level of equality among all people; however, we do have far to go in this effort.

Today, we do not see the overt forms of racism and discrimination that we saw in the 1950's and 1960's, rather, we see a more covert form of discrimination in the form of glass ceilings in hiring practices and a vast disparity between African-Americans and whites in the areas of income, education, and crime statistics. We also see this covert discrimination in the efforts of many to defeat a minimum wage increase. The current minimum wage of \$4.25 per hour provides the full-time worker an annual salary of \$8,500, which is less than one-

half the current poverty line for a family of four. With inflation, the minimum wage has decreased almost fifty cents since 1991 and is currently three-quarters of what it was in 1979.

How can we encourage people to get off welfare when we do not provide a decent wage for them to live? How can we say that we reward work over welfare when we do not provide the means by which an individual can achieve this goal.

Today, it is an honor to pay tribute to these African-Americans, who serve as testament to the fact that as a nation we have come far. However, I believe that is also appropriate to remind ourselves how much further we must go in order to achieve total equality among all in our richly diverse society. I hope that we all can make this journey together.

THE PRESIDENT'S 1996 BUDGET

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, February 15, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE PRESIDENT'S 1996 BUDGET

President Clinton recently sent to Congress his \$1.61 trillion budget for 1996. The President says his budget will allow simultaneously leaner government and sufficient funds for popular and expensive social programs. He claims it cuts middle-class taxes, keeps the deficit down, and does not cut education, Social Security, or Medicare. The budget has come under fire on Capitol Hill.

SUMMARY

The President's budget calls for \$1.612 trillion in spending and \$1.415 trillion in revenues. That leaves a \$197 billion deficit, up slightly from the \$192 billion he projects for 1995. The biggest spending goes for Social Security (\$315 billion), Medicare and Medicaid (\$270 billion), defense (\$262 billion), and interest on the national debt (\$257 billion). The budget proposes few new initiatives. The most important is the middle-class tax cut, which is actually three cuts: a children's tax credit, a college tuition deduction, and a liberalization of individual retirement accounts. On the spending side, the President seeks to eliminate 131 programs and reduce funding for another 86. He calls for the restructuring of five agencies: Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, Energy, General Services Administration, and Office of Personnel Management. He also proposes merging 271 separate programs into 27, including the consolidation of 69 job training programs. The number of federal employees will continue to decline under the President's budget. The total reduction will reach 173,300 in 1996, nearly two-thirds of the 272,900 required by 1999 under existing law.

He requests increases in discretionary spending for crime reduction, national service, Goals 2000, education, Headstart, and

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

WIC. His budget only includes limited changes in entitlement programs and makes no changes in Social Security and only modest changes in Medicare. He calls for a slight reduction in defense spending in 1996 but increases starting in 1998. He keeps foreign aid at current levels (1% of budget) to help maintain U.S. commitments overseas.

CHALLENGE TO CONGRESS

Members from both sides of the aisle have taken aim at President Clinton's budget for not being aggressive enough in reducing federal spending and reducing the deficit. The argument of the President that the deficit is now under control because it has shrunk by \$100 billion over the past two years has not been well received. The President did not identify deep spending cuts for the new leadership in Congress, and in a sense his budget challenges them: "It's your turn, show me where you're going to cut the budget."

The big question now is what the budget of the new congressional leadership will look like. We may not know for another few months. The leadership's strategy seems to be to keep everything very quiet and secret and then spring a surprise on the country and the interest groups that might be affected. It remains to be seen whether Congress will be serious about eliminating the deficit.

DEFICIT REDUCTION

The good progress that has been made on deficit reduction in the first two years of the Clinton administration seems to be replaced by a strategy of deficit control. The President and Congress were right to attack the budget deficit in the last two years, and the reasons for doing so are still compelling today. The key issue here is the country's future standard of living. The deficit preempts investment that would otherwise go into expanding the economy. That is one major reason for the stagnation of wages and incomes for many Americans since the mid-1970s.

I believe that any serious effort to cut the deficit will inevitably have to deal with health care costs. The political judgement behind the President's budget is that the electorate offers little thanks to those who make a serious run at deficit reduction. Many Members of Congress continue to play on the overwhelming belief among the public that the budget can be balanced just by cutting out waste, fraud, and abuse, and that all it takes is cutting foreign aid, taking young mothers off welfare, and ending congressional perks. At some point we will have to be honest and specific with the American people. Difficult choices are needed, and anyone who takes a hard look at the budget knows it. One of the most important things that has to happen in this country is improving public understanding about the budget.

Too many Members of Congress favor a balanced budget but are unwilling to offer any specifics. Indeed many go in the opposite direction. They want larger tax cuts and more spending on defense and other popular programs. They list only the spending they will not cut, like Social Security. They also try to assure the governors and mayors that they will be held harmless in the process. I do not want to repeat the experience of the 1980s when the country was told it was possible to cut taxes and balance the budget by cutting domestic spending. The spending cuts were never found and the national debt, as well as our interest payments, quadrupled.

TAX CUTS

Basically I believe that for the sake of our children we should cut the deficit first and

then cut taxes, not the other way around. At the same time, I am prepared to support tax cuts that are deficit neutral—cuts that are offset with spending reductions so there is no impact on the deficit. I would target tax cuts to savings and investment because that is what the country really needs to grow and to increase standards of living.

I am inclined to think the tax cuts are being oversold to the American people. Middle-class Americans are in economic pain, but I doubt the tax cuts being proposed are a genuine cure for their afflictions. And unless offset by equivalent reductions in government spending, the measure might end up costing middle-class taxpayers more money in the form of higher interest rates on their mortgages, credit cards, and loans.

CONCLUSION

A President's budget is simply the opening ante in an annual game between Congress and the President. President Clinton's budget comes to a hostile Congress. It is not a dead-on-arrival budget, but a document for bargaining. Congress understands that. Significant changes are expected in the weeks and months ahead.

THE SPRATLY ISLAND GRAB

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was alarmed but not surprised to read in Saturday's Washington Post that Communist China used its growing military strength to take over a large area of disputed territory in the Spratly Islands.

Many of our friends in that region, including our important Filipino allies, have been warning us of the dangers of understating the People's Republic of China [PRC] military buildup as a moderate modernization program. As anyone knows who seriously studies the issue, the PRC's military budget, recent acquisitions, technology transfers—legal and otherwise—and their expanded espionage program in the United States is a cause for the highest concern.

The Spratly Island grab occurred just 2 days after the Wall Street Journal reported that the PRC raised tensions in the region by buying four Russian submarines. The PRC already has over 100 submarines. Taiwan has only two and yet our State Department will not allow our democratic friends on Taiwan to purchase any submarines from the United States.

Time and time again the Communist leaders have refused to work with the ASEAN nations to defuse the Spratly tensions. All attempts to get Beijing to address specific issues such as: A regional arms registry, maritime surveillance, various military transparency proposals, and contentions regional security and territorial disputes have been ignored. The result is that Beijing's rulers incrementally grab what it wants and without a peep from the State Department.

Some 40 years ago, when the Communists sought to create a buffer between themselves and democratic India, it expanded its territory by swallowing up Tibet, a country the size of Western Europe. In 1989, when the Communists felt threatened by a possible democ-

racy emerging on its border with Burma, it sent \$1.4 billion in military assistance to the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] in Rangoon. Due to SLORC's rule, opium production has doubled and perhaps quadrupled in Burma and New York's streets are awash in cheap, almost pure heroin.

Taiwan, Tibet, the Philippines, India, New York—people all over the world, including the United States, have good reasons to be concerned about the PRC's aggressive acts. Regrettably, the State Department does not have any strategy for dealing with it other than to enhance its trading capacity in the hopes that its economic growth will bring about positive political changes. In the meantime, the PRC uses its booming economy fueled by its exports to the United States to make bold and substantive strategic gains.

The basic lesson that some policy makers in the State Department have yet to learn is that if you give in to a bully he will keep coming back for more.

ISCC AWARDS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, It gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to some very special people in Virginia's 11th District. These are individuals who put the good of their community above their own needs. These people will be receiving awards from the Springfield Inter-Service Club Council ISCC on February 15, 1995.

The Inter-Service Club Council of Springfield, Virginia was established in 1986 to coordinate the good works of the numerous service clubs and civic organizations in the community. Today there are more than 60 clubs, groups, organizations and agencies from Springfield, Franconia, Annandale, Burke, Lorton, and Fairfax Station affiliated with the Inter-Service Club Council.

Since 1987 the ISCC of Springfield has honored individuals for their exceptional service to the community. On Wednesday, February 15, 1995, eight outstanding citizens of "Greater Springfield" will be awarded honors for their distinguished service.

Receiving certificates for their distinguished service to the community are:

Karen and Bill Brown, Rotarian Bill Brown and his wife Karen have dedicated themselves to helping children of the community in need at Christmas. Their efforts, in memory of their daughter Kristi who died in a tragic automobile accident, bring joy and giving to disadvantaged children of the community. The Breakfast Rotary, the Springfield K-Mart, and Student Volunteers from West Springfield High School assist in this project.

The Central Springfield Little League, the Central Springfield All Star Team are recognized for their remarkable advance to the Little League World Series in 1994. Their exceptional abilities, their team spirit, and their high degree of sportsmanship was an inspiration to all and a credit to the community.

Jerry Corbin, as the president of the Springfield Plaza Merchants Association, Jerry has

been instrumental in the organization of the Springfield Days Weekend and the annual Halloween Parade for Children. Jerry's leadership and ability serves as an inspiration to a corps of volunteers and has been instrumental in attracting thousands of participants to these fine community activities. An active member of the Central Springfield Area Revitalization Committee [C-SPARC] and the Springfield-Franconia Midway Lions, Jerry is always helping people with his guidance, resources and funds; however he gives the credit to others.

The Springfield-Franconia Host Lions Club, for 40 years, our Host Lions have been raising money for charity, supporting sight and hearing programs, supporting the youth programs of Hayfield and Lee High Schools, and supported ECHO and Kolonia.

Honored as people of the year for 1994 are: Kari Colburn, local business leader, and member of the Springfield Rotary Club, Kari has been instrumental in leading the efforts of the Rotary Club in service to the Fairfax County Women's Shelter for abused women and their children.

Captain Frederick E. Ellis, Fairfax County Police Department. In addition to the stellar leadership that Captain Ellis has provided as the chief of the Franconia Station FCPD, he has served our community as a volunteer leader in Boy Scout Troop 1343. In 1994 he served as the chairman of the Scouting for Food Drive conducted by the George Washington District, National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. Under his leadership the Scouts collected more than 70 tons of food for the less fortunate citizens of the Washington area. Through his leadership our streets are safe, our homes secure, we enjoy an atmosphere of fair play and citizen's rights, and our hungry are fed.

Beth Smith, a member of the Friends of Pohick Regional Library, Beth has been personally responsible for coordinating and performing all landscape maintenance for the Pohick Regional Library since the summer of 1993. Stepping in as a volunteer, in the face of the severe cutbacks in county funding, Beth recruited a corps of volunteer labor, attracted the efforts of five Eagle Scout candidates, and inspired an entire community. The results of Beth's effort have brought prominence to the Burke-Springfield area by proclaiming to the world that our citizens care about their public facilities and are willing to maintain them, without using public funds.

John Sustar, a Knight of Columbus, John has served many years as an outstanding volunteer in Boy Scouts, youth sports, and in his church. A community leader, John has organized joint contracting for driveway and roofing repairs, and led the effort to install natural gas lines in this neighborhood. He is a former Grand Knight and is the editor of the monthly newsletter.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating these fine citizens on their outstanding work. It is citizens like these, scattered across America, that provide this country with our margin for excellence, in providing services to those in need, keeping our communities clean and beautiful and restoring the American dream to our young people. The Springfield Inter Service Club Council and its member organizations deserve our thanks and efforts.

IN HONOR OF WARREN FLOWERS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me today to honor Warren Flowers of Gainesville, Cooke County, TX, who recently announced his retirement as publisher of the Gainesville Daily Register following 58 years of service to the newspaper. I join his many friends in Gainesville in paying tribute to his distinguished career and to the many contributions that he has made to his community.

Warren Flowers was born in Shattuck, OK, on August 3, 1922, the oldest of six children born to Charlie and Hallie Flowers. His family moved to Texas when he was 4, and 9 years later, at the age of 13, he began his career at the Register as a paperboy. He later worked in the pressroom for 10 cents a day and, by his senior year in high school, he was the city circulation manager.

A graduate of Gainesville public schools and Cooke County College, Warren met his wife, Quade Little, while in college, and they were married September 1, 1942. He joined the Army Air Corps in October of 1942 and served with Archie Bunker and others in World War II until 1946. Warren then returned to the newspaper as circulation manager, a position he held until 1976, when he took the publisher's job.

Donrey Media Group purchased the Register in 1973, which resulted in the newspaper beginning to update its printing process. Warren watched the paper progress from an 8-page flatbed printing press that printed off hotlead type to its current 24-page electronic offset printing press with heated aluminum page plates, and from manual typewriters and linotype machines to video display terminals and computerized typesetters.

Warren helped celebrate the newspaper's 50th anniversary edition in 1940 and also its 100th anniversary edition in 1990. Throughout this time he has played a role in chronicling the news events in his town and county and in promoting projects that would benefit his community.

Over the years Warren has been active in many civic organizations—as a charter member of the Gainesville Optimist Club, a charter member of Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Worth, 32nd degree, and a life member of the Texas Circulation Managers Association. He also has been active in the PTA, Commander, American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, Little League baseball, Girl Scouts and Camp Fire Girls, Cooke County College Ex-Students Association, and Gainesville Shrine Club.

Warren credits his wife, Quade, for supporting him through good times and bad for 52 years—almost as long as he worked for the Register. He also gives much credit for his successful tenure to his associates on the newspaper. In 1993 he received the Sam C. Holloway Memorial Award from the North and East Texas Press Association and also received the Golden 50 Award from the Texas Press Association in commemoration of 50 years of service to journalism.

He and Quade have three children—Janice of Wharton, Donna of Sherman, and Max of

Oklahoma City, and seven grandchildren—six boys and a girl, who will occupy some of his retirement time. He also plans to do some traveling and a little fishing and hunting along the way.

More importantly, Mr. Speaker, as he begins this new phase of his life, he can look back with satisfaction on a lifetime of accomplishments in his hometown of Gainesville. His efforts on behalf of his hometown newspaper and on behalf of his community will always be appreciated. As his friend and admirer for many years, I commend his many successes, his distinguished career, and his civic contributions. I join many other friends in Gainesville and in Cooke County who wish him well.

BEREUTER AMENDMENT TO H.R.

728

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would like to express his dissatisfaction with the rule granted for consideration of H.R. 728. This rule placed a 10-hour time limit on debate on any amendments. According to the rule, preference was to be given to amendment preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Preference was also given to members of the Judiciary Committee, whether their amendments had been printed in the RECORD or not. Over 1 hour and 47 minutes were taken for votes, leaving many Members who are not members of the Judiciary Committee without an opportunity to offer their amendments. If the time for votes had not been included in the 10 hours for debate, many other Members would have been able to offer amendments.

Specifically, this Member tried throughout the day on Tuesday, February 14, to offer his amendment No. 22, which was printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on February 13. A copy of the amendment follows:

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 728, AS REPORTED,
OFFERED BY MR. BEREUTER OF NEBRASKA
Page 12, after line 7, insert the following:

"(10) the unit of local government will spend not more than 50 percent of the funds received under this title to purchase law enforcement equipment and hardware, including but not restricted to vehicles, machinery, communications equipment, and computer equipment, that assist law enforcement officials in reducing or preventing crime and improving public safety unless the Attorney General certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist that make the use of more than 50 percent of such funds for such purposes essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order in such unit of local government."

The Bereuter amendment was simple and straightforward. It would have prohibited the use of more than 50 percent of the grant for law enforcement equipment and hardware, including but not restricted to vehicles, machinery, communications equipment, and computer equipment. This amendment also had a waiver provision so that in extraordinary circumstances a local government may make a request to the Attorney General for an exemption from the 50-percent restriction.

The 50-percent restriction would be a very minimal requirement. It was not unreasonable in any way and would not have imposed a burden or hardship on local governments. It is interesting to note that a 1976 study of the LEAA grants indicates that the percentage of LEAA grants spent on equipment from 1969 to 1971 range from 39.2 to 22.2 percent. The Bereuter amendment was very generous perhaps to a fault, by limiting equipment expenditures to 50 percent.

The Bereuter amendment would have gone a long way to improve H.R. 728 by placing greater emphasis on funding for personnel and locally supported and locally effective crime programs. This amendment also provided some answer and some assurance to those concerned that there would be a decrease in the numbers of new cops on the street by ensuring that only half of the funds could be used for equipment and hardware. This restriction also provided some restraint against excesses by local governments.

The Schumer amendment accepted in the Judiciary Committee would not have been affected by this amendment. The prohibition on the use of grant funds for tanks, limousines, planes, real estate, and yachts would have remained in place. Another Schumer amendment offered during Floor debate added the prohibitions on the use of funds for consultants and for vehicles not intended for police use.

The last general block grant program to fight crime was the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration block grant program in the 1970's. There were many documented cases of outright abuse and waste of taxpayers' funds. During debate on H.R. 728, many examples were given and many comparisons were made to that now defunct program. LEAA was gratefully revised in 1979, and eventually eliminated during the Reagan administration in 1982.

This Member has first-hand knowledge of some of the excesses of the LEAA grants as a result of his service on the Nebraska State Crime Commission from 1969 to 1971. While there were many criticisms of the LEAA program, the source of the most flagrant abuses of Federal funds was the use of the LEAA grants for crime fighting equipment and hardware. For example, LEAA funds were used to purchase a tank in Louisiana, an airplane for the personal use of the Governor of Indiana, a \$2 million prototype that did not work, and a \$1.3 million fingerprint computer never used in the 7 years it was owned by the State of Illinois.

In 1979, the House and Senate prohibited the use of grant funds for the purchase of equipment or hardware, except for information and telecommunications systems and bullet proof vests. Hardware and equipment could only be purchased if the purchase or payments are incurred as a incidental and necessary part of an improvement program or project. This allowed an exception for necessary purchases but indeed it was a very wide loophole.

This Member's amendment to H.R. 728 would have allowed local communities to use no more than 50 percent of the grant for equipment and hardware; this limitation would have precluded the use of a disproportionate share of funds for equipment and hardware.

The Bereuter amendment was necessary to assist in avoiding the mistakes made during the existence of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. We should have learned those lessons before through the LEAA experience, after millions of taxpayer dollars were wasted. We have the power to establish a new grant program that effectively fights crime, is a formula that would reduce waste and abuse. This Member believes it is most unfortunate that this Member was not allowed to offer his amendment for a vote. It would have greatly improved the block grant program created by H.R. 728 and answered numerous arguments that personnel needs like cops on the beat and local attuned prevention programs would not be ignored or downgraded.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JERREL D. SMITH ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the contributions and work of Jerrel D. Smith of St. Louis, MO, on the occasion of his retirement.

Jerrel Smith, vice president—Environmental, Safety, and Health for the Union Electric Co. of St. Louis, MO, retired on January 31. He will assume a new role as environmental policy consultant to the senior management of the Union Electric Co.

In his 37 years of service to Union Electric Co., Mr. Smith has played an active role in assisting Federal, State, and local legislative and regulatory entities in establishing environmental protection. During his career, he has participated in the formation and implementation of many environmental laws. Of particular note was his work with us on the Clean Air Act, which will help us achieve reductions in air pollution in a way that achieves tough new standards in a cost-effective manner. This work will save ratepayers in eastern Missouri many millions of dollars.

The 104th Congress acknowledges the many achievements of Jerrel Smith. We thank him for his continuing contributions to the development of effective national policies—and wish him best of luck in his new endeavors.

GAO REPORT—FORMER SOVIET UNION

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, on February 7 the GAO issued Report GAO/NSIAD-95-10, entitled "Former Soviet Union: U.S. Bilateral Program Lacks Effective Coordination." As the report puts it:

[w]hile the Freedom Support Act gives the State Department Coordinator broad responsibility for U.S. bilateral programs with the Former Soviet Union . . . We found that, in practice, the Coordinator's role is much

more limited. Other groups within the executive branch have equal or greater influence and authority over assistance to the FSU or function autonomously outside the Coordinator's purview.

A new Coordinator has now been named to replace Ambassador Simons. While his charter will be signed by the President instead of the National Security Advisor, and he will report directly to the Secretary of State instead of the Deputy Secretary, it is not clear that his legal authority has been broadened.

I believe the GAO report is evidence that the coordinator of aid to the former Soviet Union should be in the White House and should have authority over all agencies involved in assistance to the FSU. The text of the report's Results in Brief follows:

RESULTS IN BRIEF

This report points out that the coordination process has not always worked smoothly—as could be expected for an undertaking of this magnitude. Disputes have arisen between the Coordinator, USAID, and other federal agencies over the appropriateness of various projects. We have not judged the appropriateness of positions taken by various agencies in these disputes. Although the various parties agree that problems exist in the coordination process, there is no consensus as to how the coordination process should change. We are not making any recommendations in this report.

For fiscal years 1990 through 1993, 19 U.S. government agencies committed a total of \$10.1 billion for bilateral grants, donations, and credit programs to the FSU. During the period, federal agencies obligated \$1 billion and spent \$434 million of the \$1.8 billion authorized by Congress for grant programs, obligated \$1.6 billion, and spent \$1.22 billion for the donation program, and made \$6.7 billion available for direct loans, guarantees, and insurance agreements.

The structure for coordinating and managing U.S. bilateral programs for the FSU starts with the National Security Council's Policy Steering Group chaired by the Deputy Secretary of State. This is the only place where all U.S. government policies and programs involving the FSU come together and where all agencies report. The National Security Council Directorate for Russian, Ukrainian, and Eurasian Affairs, which provides staff support to the Policy Steering Group, has itself played a coordinating role and was key in developing the U.S. package of assistance first presented at the 1993 Tokyo Economic Summit. The Policy Steering Group approved the package but has very limited involvement in grant and credit program implementation.

Pursuant to the Freedom Support Act, in May 1993, the President designated a Coordinator within the Department of State and charged him with (1) designing an overall assistance and economic cooperation strategy for the FSU; (2) ensuring program and policy coordination among agencies implementing the act; (3) pursuing coordination with other countries and international organizations with respect to assistance to the FSU; (4) ensuring proper management, implementation, and oversight by agencies responsible for assistance programs for the FSU; and (5) resolving policy and assistance program disputes among U.S. agencies participating in the assistance program. The Coordinator reports to the Deputy Secretary of State.

While the Freedom Support Act gives the State Department Coordinator broad responsibility for U.S. bilateral programs with the

FSU—and calls on him to coordinate with other countries and international organizations on aid programs to the FSU—we found that, in practice, the Coordinator's role is much more limited. Other groups within the executive branch have equal or greater influence and authority over assistance to the FSU or function autonomously outside the Coordinator's purview. In addition, the Coordinator has limited or no authority to direct activities of the Cooperative Threat Reduction program or worldwide programs with the FSU components, such as those of the Export-Import Bank, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and Department of Agriculture, and thus has no way of ensuring that all programs for the FSU complement one another.

The only bilateral program wholly within the Coordinator's purview is the program funded by the Freedom Support Act. All agencies, even those with programs that are not under the purview of the Coordinator, generally report on their activities in the FSU to the Assistance Coordination Group, which the Coordinator chairs. However, the Group is not a decision-making body but is essentially a forum for sharing information and giving greater transparency to the program.

Although the Coordinator has issued strategy papers on assistance to and economic cooperation with the FSU and Russia, these documents focus primarily on technical assistance. They do not develop a clearly articulated strategy for achieving the overarching goals of the Freedom Support Act or for helping the countries of the FSU achieve their reform objectives. For example, the strategy papers do not discuss what role programs of the Export-Import Bank, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, or the Department of Defense will play in achieving U.S. objectives in the FSU.

Other participants involved with U.S. assistance to the FSU have at times resisted, hindered, or overruled the Coordinator's efforts to develop a coherent and comprehensive assistance program for the FSU. These include Cabinet and other agencies, the Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission and Congress through congressional earmarks. Regardless of the merits of individual cases, the numerous efforts to work outside the coordination process dilutes the Coordinator's ability to coordinate the broad range of the bilateral program and to develop a strategy that covers the full scope of U.S. economic cooperation activities. (See apps. I and II for further information on the coordination structure and process.)

The Coordinator's role has been further complicated by the existence of serious disagreement between agencies over various aspects of the program. USAID, a primary implementing agency for Freedom Support Act programs, has been involved in numerous disputes with other government agencies over money and policy.

Agencies complained that USAID often attempted to hinder their participation in the program despite the Coordinator's instructions, would not cooperate with them, and often ignored or overlooked experience other government agencies had with the issues at hand.

USAID officials disagreed with this characterization. They said that other agencies often want to use Freedom Support Act assistance funds for purposes that are not consistent with priorities USAID believes are appropriate. USAID believes it is responsible for maintaining accountability over the program; however, USAID officials said that

sometimes other agencies do not understand USAID's accountability requirements.

According to an official at the Coordinator's Office, disputes between USAID and other agencies have required the Coordinator's Office to spend an excessive amount of time dealing with high-level political battles over small amounts of money instead of spending time developing program goals and objectives. (See app. III for information on implementation problems and app. IV for the status of program obligations and expenditures.)

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA: SAFEST CITY U.S.A.

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, for the past several years, the great State of California has seen a series of unparalleled disasters, both natural, manmade, and economic. These have included earthquakes, floods, fires, civil unrest, and even bankruptcy. Even my own constituency in Orange County has been dramatically affected by recent floods and economic reversals. All of this has led to the impression that the State and the county's once great image of prosperity and a high quality of life has diminished.

Despite all of this, I am pleased to report that my home town of Huntington Beach was recently honored as America's "Safest City." The Morgan Quitno Publishing House of Lawrence, KS, in its book "City Crime Rankings" looked at the 100 largest cities in America and discovered that Huntington Beach was the safest place to live. It is with great pride and honor that I commend and applaud each and every citizen and employee in the city of Huntington Beach for their efforts at crime reduction. We are all aware that no one person or event could ever be singled out as a deciding factor in receiving such an award. It takes the patience and commitment of everyone within the community.

For several years, now, the city of Huntington Beach has progressed in exciting and new directions. The advent of Community Oriented Policing, downtown redevelopment, and many other progressive concepts have helped to insure a low crime rate and high quality of life.

Congratulations to Huntington Beach for your efforts! It is nice to have factual verification of what I have known all along, that the Orange County and Huntington Beach area is a great place to live and work.

The police department in Huntington Beach is obviously one of the finest in the Nation. Also important is that the community likes and supports their police and consider law enforcement every citizen's job. So the city, the police, and the people of Huntington Beach have every reason to be proud of their designation as the country's safest city.

1994 TOP 10 LIST OF INSURANCE FRAUD

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following top 10 list of insurance fraud to my colleagues. However, before I proceed, I would like to thank the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud for their hard work and unwavering dedication in bringing insurance fraud to the public's attention.

As a State senator and cochair of the Ohio Insurance Fraud Task Force, I was active in fighting fraud in Ohio. Insurance fraud cost American consumers more than \$68 billion last year. That's more than \$800 a year out of each family's pockets in higher insurance premiums.

In order to give my colleagues a better understanding of the scope and breadth of insurance fraud, I submit the following "1994 Top Ten" list of insurance fraud cases in the United States.

1994 TOP 10 LIST OF INSURANCE FRAUD

1. *Stable Slayings.* Hired killers destroyed an unknown number of show horses. Owners collected on insurance policies which usually covered a horse for more than it was worth—\$25,000 and up. The scheme had been going on for decades, and some top names in the horse world are alleged to be involved. Twenty-three people were indicted in Chicago in July for their roles: 17 pled guilty, three were jailed and fined, and six await trial.

2. *Minus One.* Dr. John Rende, a 38 year-old Florida dentist, agreed to allow two brothers, Kenneth and Robert Alberton, to cut off a finger with an axe and claim it was an accident. He collected a \$1.3 million lump sum settlement through one brother's homeowner policy. He also filed under his practice's disability policy. Rende used some of the money to buy a boat he named "Minus One." Rende and the Albertons pled guilty. All are in jail and under orders to make restitution. Mary Rende, John's wife, is expected to plead guilty soon.

3. *An Empire of Scams.* William Loeb set up a phony labor union to sell health insurance from Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield in 1988. When Empire terminated the insurance contract two years later, the union moved the policies to bogus insurers. More than 8,000 consumers lost \$43 million in premiums on worthless policies. Total unpaid claims could be as much as \$24 million. Insurers for more than 600 agents named as defendants in the case have agreed to pay out more than \$8 million to settle unpaid claims. More settlements may come in March. Loeb is serving seven years in jail.

4. *Coker's Coveted.* Stephen D. Coker is on the run following his September indictment in Alabama on 35 fraud-related counts. He's accused of siphoning at least \$30 million in premiums, passing them through a network of offshore insurers and reinsurers. Coker's accused of looting a British Virgin Islands insurer via a sham reinsurance agreement, filing false financial statements with regulators, selling policies on behalf of bogus insurance companies run by the late fraud artist Alan Teale, and reinsuring several of Teale's own sham operations, taking in at least another \$4 million.

5. *The Eye's on Him.* Dr. Jeffrey J. Rutgard, a San Diego eye surgeon, was indicted in

March on 217 counts alleging he bilked Medicare and private insurers out of millions of dollars. He allegedly performed unnecessary operations on mostly elderly patients who were often unable to give informed consent. He was paid \$20.8 million over five years.

6. *A Blue Bel-Aire*. Arthur Blumeyer III was convicted of 27 counts of conspiracy, money laundering and fraud in February. Blumeyer was accused of using St. Louis based Bel-Aire Insurance Co. to bilk policy holders out of about \$43.5 million over six years. He pocketed at least \$4.9 million. Blumeyer's conviction was overturned on a technicality and he's currently in the insurance business awaiting a new trial.

7. *Gypsy Truckers*. Ronnie Lee Johnson of Fort Myers, Florida, pled guilty to two felonies for his role in a multi-state insurance fraud case involving the diversion of at least \$7 million in premiums. The scammers obtained minimal insurance policies by misrepresenting the firms as small ones with only a handful of trucks. The operators then charged hundreds of unwary independent truckers as much as \$5,000 a year to use fraudulently obtained liability insurance. Johnson currently is serving a 46 month prison term and cooperating with a expanded investigation.

8. *Senior Swindlers*. Retired Floridians William and Phyllis Lenahan were convicted of conning workers' compensation and physicians' malpractice insurance for \$3 million. William claimed surgery for a work-related back injury was botched, leaving him totally dependent on his wife. In an investigation initiated and paid for by the surgeon, William was videotaped dancing, among other activities. The two each were sentenced to seven year prison terms and ordered in June to pay \$1.6 million in restitution.

9. *Chiropractic Couple*. A Boston chiropractor, Dr. Alan Rosenthal, and his wife, Caterina, were charged with 36 counts as part of a scheme worth an estimated \$2 million. They allegedly made false or inflated claims, subjected clients to unnecessary tests, required a minimum number of visits, and engaged in other conduct. Dr. Rosenthal and his wife's trial is scheduled for February 13 in federal court.

10. *The Atlanta 57 and Counting*. Georgia officials in September arrested 57 people in two counties on 258 counts of insurance fraud. Included in the arrests were two "major runners" (those who refer patients in staged accidents) and a chiropractor. At least 150 false or inflated claims were filed with 15 insurers and costs more than \$1 million. Officials are continuing the investigation and more arrests are expected.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 97TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BATTLESHIP U.S.S. "MAINE" AND RECOGNITION OF THE CREATION OF THE U.S.S. BATTLESHIP "MAINE" CENTENNIAL COMMISSION IN KEY WEST, FL

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues in the House join me in commemorating the 97th anniversary of the destruction of the battleship U.S.S. *Maine* in

Havana Harbor, Cuba, on this day, February 15, 1898.

Today in the city of Key West, FL, a prominent group of citizens has gathered to announce the formation of the U.S.S. Battleship *Maine* Centennial Commission. They are meeting at the historic Key West Custom House where on the second floor a naval court of inquiry convened by President William McKinley met to hear testimony from all the survivors, officers and crew, of the U.S.S. *Maine*, on several occasions in March 1898.

The centennial commission, under the sponsorship of the Key West Art & Historical Society, and Richard Warren, chairman, City Commissioner Joseph Pais, vice chair, and Radm. Ret. Nick Gee, vice chair, wish to call to the attention of all Americans the importance of commemorating the 100th anniversary of this tragic event that destroyed the proud battleship, that killed 260 crew and officers out of 350, and that propelled this great Nation into a war with Spain to the cry of "Remember the *Maine*." This war, the Spanish-American War, that "splendid little war," would lead to the freedom of the Philippines. Puerto Rico, Guam, and the island of Cuba.

Today in Key West, this group of citizens prepares to honor the men of the *Maine* who died without the ability to defend themselves in Havana Harbor on February 15, 1898. They will honor that great steel battleship that had celebrated Christmas of 1897 in Key West Harbor and been ready to sail forth to Cuba on January 24, 1898, to assist, if necessary, Americans in the city on Havana, Cuba. These citizens will proudly remember the *Maine* and all of the great naval vessels that have visited the port of Key West and the near waters. Today they will recall the great Cuban patriots that gathered in Key West throughout the 1890's in the long struggle to cast off the yoke of Spanish tyranny that had laid waste to Cuba. Key West will remember those days in which journalists, war correspondents, Members of Congress, and military leaders strode to the dusty streets following the story that war always unfolds. These were people like Frederic Remington, Robley D. Evans, Stephen Crane, Randolph Hearst, Richard Harding Davis, Admirals Sampson and Schley, and Clara Barton of the Red Cross.

Presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter have, thus far, joined me as honorary members of the U.S.S. *Maine* Centennial Commission. During the next several months the commission will be seeking members from throughout the United States, the great State of Florida, and that little bit of paradise called Key West. I call on all of us here assembled to join Key West and the centennial commission in recognizing their proud efforts. And, together, let us all remember that battleship U.S.S. *Maine* and her crew.

FACTS CONGRESS SHOULD NOT IGNORE

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, when the Congress acts on factual information, it usually does a pretty good job.

Here are some facts which Congress would be ill-advised to ignore.

CHARITIES CANNOT FILL THE GAP THAT SUBSTANTIAL CUTS IN FEDERAL FUNDING OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS WOULD CREATE

We, the 116 undersigned organizations, urge you to consider the following facts carefully and fully before taking any actions that would make charitable organizations responsible for filling the gap that substantial cuts in federal funding of social programs would inevitably cause.

Independent Sector is a national coalition formed 15 years ago, comprised of over 800 voluntary organizations, foundations, and corporate-giving offices with national interest and impact in philanthropy and voluntary action.

We are deeply concerned about suggestions, originating in Congress, that charities fund a substantial share of some of the social programs now financed by the Federal government.

While we would welcome additional tax incentives to stimulate private giving, the increase in gifts they would generate—even by the rosier projections—would do precious little to offset huge cuts being suggested in the funding of social programs.

SPENDING BY CHARITIES ON SOCIAL PROGRAMS IS ONLY A FRACTION OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Government spending on social welfare programs at the federal, state, and local levels totals about \$950 billion a year. Charities as a whole—excluding only churches—spend approximately three-eighths the sum of government outlays: about \$360 billion.

Since the 1960s, charities and government agencies have often worked as partners in addressing critical social needs. In fact, charities receive roughly 30 percent of their revenues—about \$105 billion—from government sources.

If governments were suddenly to stop their funding of social programs through nonprofit charities, the \$105 billion cutback would amount to less than one-eighth of total government spending of \$950 billion. But if the charities as a result were forced to cut their budgets by \$105 billion, it would amount to a drastic nearly one-third reduction in their spending.

Alongside the 30 percent of total revenues that charities receive from government, they receive only 22 percent—about \$80 billion—from private contributions. To offset the loss of all their government funding, the charities would have to increase private gifts to 230 percent of present levels. To offset the loss of half their government funding—\$52 billion—they would have to increase giving to 165 percent of present levels.

Assuming that government agencies slashed their budgets for direct funding of social programs as well as their \$105 billion of indirect funding through charities, the charities would be further burdened in trying to aid former recipients of those direct government services.

CHARITIES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REPLACE LOST FEDERAL REVENUE AND MEET NEW NEEDS

As for increasing private giving through tax incentives, one major proposal—to restore the charitable deduction for non-itemizing taxpayers—is expected to increase individuals giving by only about \$3 billion a year, or less than 5 percent.

Recent trends in charitable giving offer little basis for optimism. Government reports tell us that individual giving from 1963 to 1993 rose an average 2.4 percent, or \$2.6 billion, a year after inflation. But between 1988 and 1993 the average annual increase was

only 1.2 percent. Including contributions by foundations and corporations and individual bequests as well as gifts of living individuals, the average increase between 1988 and 1993 was still only 1.2 percent.

While the percentage of American households giving to charity has remained steady over the years at close to 75 percent, average household contributions dropped between 1989 and 1993 by a disturbing 23 percent after inflation. Likely reasons were worries about the national economy and personal financial security.

Private foundations, which mostly make grants from their endowment incomes, provide about \$10 billion a year to charitable purposes—a relatively small portion of total charity revenues. Moreover, foundations tend to use grants as risk capital to underwrite innovations rather than for general operating purposes. Many must limit their funding to special types of projects.

HIGHER FEES AND DUES WILL PUT CHARITABLE SERVICES BEYOND THE REACH OF THOSE THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO SERVE

Charities receive about 40 percent of their revenues—double what they get from private giving and one-third more than they get from government—through dues, fees, and other charges. Relentlessly rising costs and dwindling government revenues have forced many charities to charge more for services, or start charging for formerly free services.

Charities cannot increase their charges above certain levels, however, without putting their services beyond reach of the very people whose needs they serve. Moreover, in some sectors at least, efforts to begin or expand the sale of related goods and services may encounter complaints from for-profit suppliers claiming unfair competition.

IN SUMMARY

Certainly, charities and their donors will do whatever they possibly can to increase gift revenues and services to compensate for reduced government spending.

But we can only do so much. We cannot begin to do it all.

These are facts of life. We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to take these facts carefully and fully into account in your deliberations, decisions, and votes.

American Arts Alliance, American Association of Museums, American Cancer Society, American Foundation for Vision Awareness, The American Indian College Fund, American Jewish Congress, American Lung Association, American Social Health Association, American Symphony Orchestra League, American Tinnitus Association.

Arrow, Incorporated, Arthritis Foundation, Association for Healthcare Philanthropy, Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, Battle Creek Community Foundation, The Boston Foundation, Otto Bremer Foundation, California Association of Nonprofits, Camp Berea, Inc., Camp Fire Boys and Girls.

Cancer Care, Inc., CARIE (Coalition of Advocates for the Rights of the Infirm Elderly), Catholic Health Association, Catholic Social Service—Kansas City, KS, Center for Applied Linguistics, Center for Community Change, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Children's Aid International, Church Women United, The Community Foundation Serving Coastal, S.C.

Compeer Inc., Compton Foundation, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, Dance/USA, Direction Center, Grand Rapids, MI, Donors Forum of Chicago, Epilepsy Foundation of America, Eureka Communities, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Maurice Falk Medical Fund.

Families International, General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, General Federation of Women's Clubs, General Services Foundation, Girls Scouts of the USA, Greater Worcester Community Foundation, Alan Guttmacher Institute, Holland Home, Grand Rapids, MI, Hudson-Webber Foundation, Illinois Association of NonProfit Organizations.

Illinois Literacy Resource Development Center, InterAction, International Primate Protection League, Jewish Community Centers Association of North America, Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, Harris and Eliza Kempner Fund, Albert Kundstadter Family Foundation, Lakeshore Lung Society, Laubach Literacy, Leukemia Society of America.

March of Dimes, Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations, Mental Health Association in Texas, Mercy Medical Airlift, Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy, Minnesota Community College System, Nagle & Associates, National AIDS Fund, National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, National Association for Visually Handicapped.

National Association of Homes and Services For Children, National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, National Benevolent Association, National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy, National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, National Council of Catholic Women, National Council of Churches of Christ in USA, National Council of Jewish Women, National Council of Nonprofit Associations, National Easter Seal Society.

National Humanities Alliance, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Neighborhood Coalition, National Resource Defense Council, National Society of Fund Raising Executives, National Wildlife Federation, National Women's Law Center, Native American Rights Fund, NC Center for Nonprofits, New York Regional Association of Grantmakers.

Noble Centers, Inc., Nokomis Foundation, OMB Watch, OPERA America, Options for Independence, The Park Ridge Center for the Study of Health, Faith, and Ethics, People's Place—Milford, DE, The Pittsburgh Foundation, Recording for the Blind, Inc., Research! America.

School for Field Studies, Second Harvest, Stepping Stones-Morgantown, WV, Theatre Communications Group, The Union Institute, United Church of Christ, Office for Church in Society, United Way of Michigan, Warren Village, The Wesleyan Church, Wichita Industries and Services for the Blind.

Women's College Coalition, World Emergency Relief, YMCA of the USA, YWCA of Chemung County, Elmira, NY, YWCA of the USA.

TRIBUTE TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the 75th anniversary of one of this Nation's most unique and venerable political institutions—the League of Women Voters. Founded in 1920, 6 months prior to passage of the 19th amendment, the League of Women Voters is dedicated to fur-

thering the active and informed participation by citizens in the democratic process.

Today, the League of Women Voters boasts more than 1,100 chapters and 150,000 members, men and women. The hallmark of this nonpartisan organization, which does not support political parties or their candidates, is its grassroots approach to action. Official policy positions advocated by the league are based upon the collective ideas and opinions of its members. In addition, individual chapters consistently put forward innovative community-based strategies to encourage citizen participation at the local level.

As we look back on many of the most important legislative accomplishments of the past 75 years, it is clear that the involvement of the League of Women Voters has had a lasting impact. Individuals such as Eleanor Roosevelt, who was a very active member of the New York League, have fought on countless occasions for the enactment of measures to improve working conditions for the American worker; ensure that our children are well fed and properly educated; guarantee equal rights for all; strengthen our health care system; and protect our environment for this and future generations.

I am pleased to join with my colleagues in honoring this exceptional organization committed to responsible citizenship. By encouraging the enlightened debate of vital national, State, and local issues, the League of Women Voters has contributed greatly to the representative system of government envisioned by our Founding Fathers.

THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION ACT OF 1995

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of 1995. This is the same legislation that I introduced in the 103d Congress as H.R. 784.

Energy experts across the Nation recognize conservation as the most environmentally responsible and cost-effective source of energy available today. Under the direction of the Northwest Power Planning Council, the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana are committed to achieving 1,500 megawatts of energy conservation over the next decade. This effort will save enough energy to meet the electricity demands of a city half again as large as Seattle.

This legislation will overturn the Internal Revenue Service practice that discourages private utilities from pursuing the kind of effective conservation programs that are vital to the Nation's energy future. Longstanding IRS policy has allowed electric and gas utilities to deduct from their tax liabilities the costs of their energy conservation programs in the year incurred. However, the Service has begun to pressure private utilities to spread these deductions over a period of several years. The Puget Sound Power & Light Co. estimates that this could reduce its annual conservation expenditures by up to 10 percent. That amount

is equivalent to the loss of electricity conserved when 4,500 homes participate in the company's residential weatherization program.

I want to emphasize that this legislation is nothing more than an affirmation of longstanding tax policy, and a rejection of the Service's recent attempts to modify it. Utilities have deducted conservation expenditures in the current year since the beginning of these programs in the 1960's. As recently as 1991, the IRS acknowledged in a technical memorandum that conservation expenditures are, in fact, allowable as a current deduction.

Investor owned utilities are the key to the success of conservation programs across the country. Of the 1,500 megawatts of energy savings the Pacific Northwest has committed to achieve in this decade, over half of that will come from private utilities. I am committed to supporting these companies in this important effort, and this legislation is a vital first step.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing revenue neutral legislation to reinstate the exclusion from gross income of Contributions In Aid of Construction—known as CIAC—to a water or wastewater utility. Joining me as original co-sponsors are Representatives ROBERT MATSUI, RICHARD NEAL, ANDY JACOBS, and WILLIAM JEFFERSON.

Utilities are capital intensive industries. Historically, they have received the capital for the construction of a utility extension directly from new customers—typically through the developer or small municipality. The customer contributes this property, or a cash equivalent, equaling the cost of the extension to the utility. In this manner, existing customers will not face rate increases every time the utility gains new customers.

Prior to enactment of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, CIAC were not included in the gross income of an investor-owned utility and therefore were not subject to Federal income tax. On the other hand, utilities could not take tax depreciation or investment tax credits on CIAC.

The 1986 act repealed Internal Revenue Code section 118(b) and thus forced utilities to include CIAC in gross income and pay Federal income tax on them. Removing the exclusion from gross income of CIAC was intended as a tax on utilities. In practice and by regulation in most States, the CIAC tax is not a tax on utilities, but a tax on utility customers, primarily developers, home buyers, small municipalities, and even the Federal Government.

State utility regulatory bodies, referred to as PUC's, generally require utilities to pass tax costs onto their customers. This is done in one of two ways. The most common approach is to require the new customer to pay the cost of the tax, plus the tax on the tax known as the gross-up. Depending on the State, a gross-up can add as much as 70 percent to a

customer's cost of the contribution. Alternatively, the PUC's may allow the utility to recover the tax cost over a period of time from the new rate base.

Whichever method is chosen, utilities do not pay the tax, they pass it on. But passing the tax on has detrimental effects, not only on the utility's ability to bring in new business, but on the environment and—most significantly—on the price of new housing.

A developer ultimately will pass the cost of the CIAC and the gross-up on to the new home buyer. The National Association of Home Builders has estimated that the CIAC tax can increase the cost of new housing by as much as \$2,000 per unit. This additional cost is enough to end the dream of homeownership for a young couple.

The CIAC tax also has some important environmental effects. New customers can avoid paying the CIAC tax by building their own independent water systems. This leads to a proliferation of systems that may not have the financial, technical, or managerial ability to comply with the rigorous requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Such systems are referred to as nonviable. According to the EPA, in fiscal year 1990, over 90 percent of the violations of Safe Drinking Water Act were made by systems serving fewer than 3,300 individuals. By encouraging the proliferation of nonviable systems, the CIAC tax frustrates the environmental policy goal of consolidating these systems into exiting, professionally managed systems.

Mr. Speaker, repeal of the tax on CIAC for water and wastewater utilities will have a noticeable effect on both housing prices and environmental policy. It is supported by the National Association of Water Companies, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and the National Association of Home Builders. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this important legislation.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to call to the attention of my colleagues the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Fifty years ago this month, our American Marines from the Third, Fourth, and Fifth United States Marine Divisions courageously battled in a struggle which lasted 30 days, to capture the Japanese occupied island of Iwo Jima. With over 25,000 American casualties, including over 6,000 killed, the Battle of Iwo Jima was one of the bloodiest battles in all of American history. This Pacific island later provided bases for fighter support for raids over Japan, as well as an emergency landing field for damaged aircraft. It was planned that Iwo Jima would be used as a major launching facility for the Allied invasion of Japan. The invasion, of course, never took place because the atomic bomb brought about a rapid surrender of Japan prior to any invasion being necessary.

However, I can attest from my own personal experience that the capture of Iwo Jima, although extremely dear, resulted in the saving of countless American lives and hastened the end of the war.

Joe Rosenthal's Pulitzer Prize winning photograph of five men raising the American flag on Suribachi summarizes the spirit of the battle. Some authorities believe that this is the most duplicated photograph in all of history. In the classic words of Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz: "Uncommon Valor Was a Common Virtue".

As a World War II staff sergeant stationed at Guam, I flew many missions over Tokyo. On several of these missions our aircraft was hit by enemy fire. We were forced on several occasions to make emergency landings, and were extremely grateful that the base on Iwo Jima was available to use. If these courageous Marines had not captured this island from Japan, myself and thousands of other American Marines would not have survived.

The capture of Iwo Jima made it possible for the United States to successfully protect bombers flying from Saipan, Tinian, Guam and other points to Japan. The airfields at Iwo Jima provided an important emergency landing field for 2,251 damaged Superforts carrying 24,761 crewmen. Thousands of American veterans, including myself, owe our lives to those who courageously captured the island of Iwo Jima.

Few battles in our history have captured the imagination of the public as has Iwo Jima. Immortalized in movies, novels, and other productions, all Americans are well aware that the name of Iwo Jima is emblazoned forever in the pantheon of glory. Unfortunately, few Americans are aware of why the courage of the Iwo Jima heroes was so significant to all of us.

It is in the spirit of gratitude and patriotism, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues a Reunion of Honor for the 50th Anniversary of Iwo Jima. The reunion will take place March 10–16, 1995. The surviving veterans of Iwo Jima, among the greatest heroes in our history, will be returning to Iwo Jima, Guam, and Saipan.

Mr. Speaker, this is an appropriate time to salute the brave dedicated men who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

OPEN FOREIGN CAPITAL MARKETS TO U.S. AIRLINES

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, during the three previous Congresses I served as the ranking member of the Aviation Subcommittee. While in that role it became very clear to me that U.S. carriers had tremendous difficulty raising capital to sustain their operations as well as meeting the high cost of acquiring expensive new equipment. Over the past 5 years the commercial air carrier industry has lost \$12.5 billion. That number far exceeds all profits earned by the industry since the Wright Brothers first flew.

High taxes, fare wars, burdensome regulations have all taken their toll. A lingering after-effect of this bloodletting has been an inability on the part of most carriers to attract new capital. One of the biggest problems now facing the airlines is the dearth of available capital. This is a capital intensive industry. One step we can take to help assure their future is to address this capital crisis.

Under current law, foreign investors cannot hold more than a 25 percent stake in the voting stock of a U.S. carrier. The bill I am introducing today would be more favorable to foreign investment while retaining enough discretion with the Secretary of Transportation so that deals that were clearly not in the public interest could still be blocked.

Under my bill, foreign investments below the current 25 percent threshold could continue as before without restriction. Investments above 25 percent would be permitted as long as: first, the key officers and two-thirds of the airline's board of directors would still be U.S. citizens; second, U.S. citizens would still control at least 51 percent of the airline's stock; and third, the Secretary found that the investment would be in the public interest.

The first two requirements are objective standards that should be easy to apply in specific cases and would give some assurance of continued U.S. control. The third requirement, the public interest test, is intended to give continued discretion to the DOT Secretary.

In applying the public interest test, the Secretary is directed to consider seven factors. No one factor is meant to be an absolute bar to the transaction. Rather, the Secretary is to give the proper weight to each factor in each individual case in deciding whether the deal should be consummated.

Under the bill, the Secretary would be expected to look favorably upon an investment that would help a weak carrier survive and effectively compete, that would help preserve U.S. jobs, or that would enhance domestic or international competition.

In addition, the Secretary would consider whether the foreign country would allow a similar investment in one of its airlines. If so, that would be a plus. On the other hand, if the foreign investor was controlled or subsidized by a foreign government, that would be a minus as it could tend to distort competition.

Another factor the Secretary must consider is the issue of foreign control. I share the desire of many of my colleagues to prevent our airlines from falling under the control of foreign nationals. But I am also mindful that a recent GAO report indicated that continuing the current control restrictions would discourage foreign investment and limit the benefits that might otherwise be achieved by this legislation. The issue of foreign control would be one factor among the others mentioned for the Secretary to consider.

The final factor for DOT to consider would be whether the foreign investor's home country has a procompetitive bilateral with the United States. While this is clearly important, it should not be the controlling factor as it seems to have been in recent transactions. Proponents of open skies should keep in mind that more liberal foreign investment rules may be the best way to achieve their goal. Only when the nationality lines of carriers are

blurred so that it is not clear which nation is benefiting from a negotiation will some of the protectionist countries be willing to remove their aviation trade barriers and allow free competition on international routes.

In evaluating these factors, the bill gives the Secretary 90 days. A time limit is important so that investors do not have to deal with the uncertainties of Government approved for an unreasonable length of time.

The issue of national security has also been raised with respect to foreign investment. Clearly we do not want an enemy of the United States taking control of one of our airlines. Moreover, our experience with Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm demonstrated that U.S. carriers play an important role by ferrying troops and supplies to a war zone under the Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) program. It is important that the viability of this program be preserved.

My bill would address the national security issue by giving the President 30 days to review a DOT-approved foreign investment. The President could disapprove an investment only on national security grounds such as a transaction that would undermine the CRAF program. Limiting the President's authority in this way is similar to his role in the awarding of international routes under section 801 of the Federal Aviation Act. This portion of my bill is patterned after that provision.

Mr. Speaker, I am aware that there are airlines who would like to close the door on foreign investment. Some have already themselves taken advantage of that source of capital and would now deny it to others. Others can still access the U.S. capital markets and would probably be just as happy to see their competitors wither and die.

But I believe they are being short-sighted. The airline industry is becoming increasingly global. I do not think an arbitrary 25 percent limit on foreign investment in U.S. carriers any longer makes sense in a worldwide economy where capital flows freely across borders.

Moreover, it should be noted that foreign investment is nothing new in the airline industry. Several foreign airlines now have substantial financial stakes in U.S. airlines. In addition, there are foreign banks, leasing companies, and other entities that hold debt obligations or other financial interests in our airlines. In some cases, these interests may be substantial. So we have already crossed the bridge on the foreign investment issue. Now it is time to raise the artificial limit on foreign investments in U.S. airline voting stock so that capital can move freely flow to U.S. airlines.

Accordingly, I am pleased to introduce this bill that would allow foreign investment in airlines up to 49 percent. Perhaps some day we can go further. For now I invite my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CLEAN WATER AMENDMENTS OF 1995

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, with several of my colleagues, I introduce the Clean Water Amendments of 1995.

The bill is based on last year's draft legislation known as the bipartisan alternative. As many of you know, a large coalition of Members of the Public Works and Transportation Committee developed this alternative in response to other Clean Water Act proposals that were either unnecessary or unnecessarily prescriptive. We worked closely with State and local officials and the regulated community to develop the alternative bill.

Original cosponsors of today's bill include some of the key supporters of the bipartisan alternative. We envision adding many more cosponsors after the bill's introduction and after our series of hearings with the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Let me emphasize the legislation to be introduced today is only a starting point. It does not represent extensive negotiation among or input from all the key interests to reflect new developments or positions since circulation of the bipartisan alternative last year. Nor is it meant to frame the debate in such a way as to prevent other issues or initiatives from arising. Instead, its purpose is merely to start the debate and to focus testimony and input from Members and interests over the coming weeks.

For example, we anticipate significant revisions to the bill's provisions on unfunded mandates, risk assessment, and cost benefit analysis. We developed these provisions before circulation of the Contract With America, H.R. 5, and other proposals pending in Congress. We will certainly want to revisit some of these issues to reflect more current thinking.

We also anticipate significant revisions to last year's provisions on nonpoint source pollution and stormwater. In fact, Mr. Speaker, some of the provisions could be viewed as unfunded or unfounded mandates. We plan to review more comprehensive proposals to overhaul the programs, remove redtape and unnecessary requirements, and increase flexibility for State and local governments.

With regard to wetlands, we have followed the same approach as in last year's bipartisan alternative: Include as a separate title provisions from H.R. 1330, the Comprehensive Wetlands Conservation and Management Act. This, too, is not meant as the final, consensus approach. We anticipate debate over various alternative approaches and revisions. However, we do not expect meaningful debate over the bill's underlying premise: The current section 404 wetlands program is broken and needs to be fixed.

We also anticipate new proposals and initiatives in other areas. For example, we want to maximize flexibility for State and local governments, minimize Federal redtape and command-and-control regulations, and pursue market-based and risk-based approaches to efficient and effective water quality measures. Innovative technologies and pollution prevention efforts, as well as nonregulatory approaches to watershed planning and protection, also offer great promise.

In the area of funding, we expect various proposals and revisions. We all know the value of clean water and the public and private costs in not having it. We also know the Federal Government has an important role in

providing and maintaining this Nation's clean and safe drinking water infrastructure. What we don't know at this point is how best to meet those needs when Federal fiscal constraints are greater than ever before. We hope today's bill will serve as a starting point to identify answers in the end.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation and to become actively involved in the debate. Congress needs to renew and reform the Clean Water Act this year. The Clean Water Amendments of 1995 will get us started. Let me reiterate again, however, that we are not embracing any particular provisions in the bill. We are simply using today's bill as a starting point. All reasonable suggestions and revisions, both large and small, are on the table for consideration.

INTRODUCTION OF HOME OFFICE DEDUCTION LEGISLATION

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to restore the home office deduction for taxpayers who work out of their homes. I am pleased to note that this measure is included in the Republican Contract With America and, additionally, has been introduced in the other body of Senator ORRIN HATCH—S. 327.

This legislation is made necessary by a 1993 Supreme Court decision, *Commissioner v. Soliman* (113 S.Ct. 701), that greatly reduced the availability of the deduction. Previously, home office expenses were deductible if the space in the home was devoted to the "sole and exclusive use" of the office; the taxpayer used no other office of business; and, the business generated enough income to cover the deduction. The Court, in effect, added two additional conditions: the customers of the home-based business must physically visit the home office, and the business revenue must be produced within the home office itself.

Clearly, these requirements are excessive and prior law must be reinstated and clarified. I believe today's bill helps achieve that goal and I look forward to prompt approval of this measure in the Committee on Ways and Means.

150 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, February 18, 1995 marks the 150th Annual Greenport Fire Department Celebration. Eastern Long Island is proud of the many years of dedicated service by the 190 volunteers of the Greenport Fire Department, and it is an honor to tell my colleagues in the House about their big day on Saturday. These volunteers are the essence of good citizenship, ready with a

helping hand no matter how large the task. Organized in 1845, the department was formed after incorporation of the Village of Greenport and it represents all that is good about Greenport. Today, it is always on call for fires and local disasters. Since the village of Greenport is a waterfront community, the men and women of the department are also well skilled at emergency evacuation. Their selfless work as volunteers has been the backbone of the entire community. The department has held an annual celebration for 150 years, and it includes the inspection of members and equipment, parade, tournament, and firemen's ball.

I take this opportunity to salute the wonderful volunteers of the Greenport Fire Department and extend the respect of the whole community.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR ROBERT PRESLEY 36TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT—RIVERSIDE, CA

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I take to the floor of the House today to praise a great legislator, a lifelong public servant, a combat veteran, and a personal friend. It may come as a surprise to those listening here in Washington, DC, but I am talking about one man—Senator Robert Presley of Riverside, CA.

Senator Presley represented the 36th State senatorial district of the great State of California. He was first elected to the senate in 1974. To give an idea of the span of his career, I note that I have staff in my office who were just learning to walk then, a first-class stamp cost about 15 cents, and the State budget was at the incredible level of \$20 billion.

Having graduated from the FBI Academy, Senator Presley went on to a successful career in law enforcement. He maintained that interest in protecting and serving the public in the senate by concentrating on anticrime legislation, prison construction, and child-protective services. Though that is not all, Mr. Speaker. Bob authored major legislation on clean air, wildlife conservation, toxic-materials control, education reform, attorney discipline, parks and recreation, and domestic violence.

Known as one of the hardest-working legislators, Senator Presley's committee service was comprehensive. He was chairman of the senate appropriations committee and the senate select committee on children and youth. He served on and was chairman of the senate natural resources and wildlife committee. He sat on the judiciary local government and agriculture and water resources committees. He also headed the joint committee on prison construction and operations. Not only did Bob work hard, he worked openly and fairly with all, regardless of party affiliation. He was, and is, interested in the improvement of California as his first, second, and third priorities.

Knowing that the wellspring of leadership is found in the local community, Bob is a member of the Riverside Lions, Elks and Moose lodges, American Legion, Air Force Association, and VFW.

Mr. Speaker, people here in Washington will often be introduced as the member from the "great State of California." Yet, who is it that makes California great? Who is it that makes our State that wonderful place in which we want to raise our families, grow our businesses, build our dreams.

It is citizen leaders like Bob Presley who consistently listen and learn, and then lead our communities to reach their full potential. It is the personal friend who without regard to mere party, will gladly and fruitfully guide younger politicians and community leaders. It is the decorated combat veteran who returns victorious, only to dedicate himself to keeping the peace at home. It is the enlightened legislator who serves his fellow citizens for two decades in the senate. It is Senator Robert Presley, a true original who is worthy of the sincerest form of flattery—imitation. Fortunately, we will still enjoy the expertise and concern of Senator Presley. He is now affiliated with our wonderful University of California, Riverside. We all look forward to working with Bob in this next chapter of his public service.

Thank you Bob for all you've done and the example you've set. All of your neighbors and fellow citizens owe you more than we can say.

VOICE OF AMERICA ANNIVERSARY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on February 24th the Voice of America begins its 54th year on the world's airwaves. From its first broadcast in 1942—begun with the words "The news may be good; the news may be bad. We shall tell you the truth—through to today, VOA has been a beacon of hope and constant source of reliable information to people around the world.

The past year was no exception. From Rwanda to Haiti, Bosnia to Chechnya, Washington Beijing, and from Northridge to Kobe, the Voice of America was there providing a uniquely American perspective in 47 languages. The year also saw the important new connection of VOA and the Internet.

VOA is still needed as democratization unevenly proceeds in several countries. The world is smaller than ever for those on the information superhighway. While CNN reaches some parts of the world, it does not reach VOA listeners—in places such as Chechnya, Rwanda, Iraq, Iran, Tibet, Nigeria, China, Burma, and North Korea—who don't understand English, have no access to cable or satellite TV, the Internet or fax machines, or for whom democracy remains only a dream.

VOA reaches these people every day, some 100 million each week, in their homes and in their languages. As they have since 1942, these listeners tune in for news of the United States, clear explanations of its policies and information about their own countries. VOA broadcasts are valuable proponents of our democratic values reaching people with the story of America and our own struggle for democracy. These broadcasts are a way to try to

promote peaceful solutions through information and bridging of cultures.

Listeners have told VOA that they want practical "how to" advice on grass roots democracy, the free market economy, and the protection of human rights as they nurture their own fledgling democracies. VOA has responded. These are staples of its programming, along with science and health, agriculture, American society and culture, and the enormously popular English teaching programs. And VOA is a promoter of free enterprise, free trade and tourism, in the United States. It reports every day about American products and services.

In an era of turbulence, where the world is torn by ethnic and religious and nationalistic hatred, there is a need for an honest and credible voice of sanity and reason.

At our best that can be our voice. At our best that is the voice of America. I salute the Voice of America as it begins year 54.

CONGRATULATIONS NICHOLE
HOLMES, MISS USA SECOND
RUNNER-UP

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nichole Lynn Holmes of Marion, Illinois. Nichole was named second runner-up in the 1995 Miss USA Pageant which was held in South Padre Island, Texas. One of twelve finalists, Nichole was selected by a panel of celebrity judges from the fields of acting, athletics and psychology. The judges saw what people in Marion have known for years: Nichole is a talented young woman from whom we will hear great things in the future.

Nichole is a graduate of Marion High School, John A. Logan College, and presently attends Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. The people of southern Illinois are proud to have one of the area's best and brightest represent the entire state in this prestigious event. Since being crowned Miss Illinois USA on November 27, 1994, she has been busy fulfilling the duties of her position and preparing for the 1995 Miss USA pageant. Obviously the long hours of preparation and dedication to achieving her goals have paid off for Nichole and her family. She has accomplished this with the continued love and support of her parents, Lynn and Mikie Holmes, who are understandably proud of with Nichole's achievements.

I am honored to represent the Holmes family in Congress and congratulate them for achieving this recognition.

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN A.
HOROWITZ

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding young woman and a prized constituent, Lauren Horowitz.

Lauren is a student at La Entrada School and recently played the lead role of Diana in the production of "Anne of Green Gables."

This outstanding performance was put on by the California Theatre Center in Sunnyvale—the only child-centered theater program in the region—and exemplifies the very best of what the arts have to offer our young people. Lauren was inspired to pursue her interest in acting by her teachers. Several little girls attending the play were inspired, in turn, by Lauren's ability to bring the role of Diana to life and asked for her autograph—the highest form of appreciation for any artist. By showing succeeding generations of young Americans a productive way to use their talents, energy, and self-discipline, the arts have proven to be a valuable asset for our children, our community, California, and our country.

Mr. Speaker, Lauren Horowitz is a young woman with a bright future ahead of her in whatever profession she may choose. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for her winning performance and showing all of us the true value of the arts.

DAVIS-BACON ACT REFORM

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation to reform the Davis-Bacon Act. The bill I am introducing is identical to legislation reported by the Committee on Education and Labor in the 103d Congress.

When Government enters the construction industry through federally funded contracts, its monopoly risks skewing this unique market unfairly. Construction wages vary greatly across the country, reflecting differences in communities' cost of living and business environments. The uncertain nature of construction work, however, where employees move constantly from job to job and employer to employer and regularly face periods of unemployment, makes the industry more susceptible to cutthroat business practices than most. The Davis-Bacon Act was enacted in 1931 by a Republican Congress in order to correct a procurement system that otherwise disrupted local employment practices and encouraged the exploitation of workers.

By law, the Federal Government awards contracts on the basis of the lowest qualified bid. Absent the protection of prevailing wage statutes, such as the Davis-Bacon Act and the Service Contract Act, the requirement that contracts be awarded on a low-bid basis, particularly in labor intensive economic sectors such as the construction industry, would inevitably result in contracts being awarded to the contractor bidding the lowest wages. In effect, Government procurement policy would act to undermine locally prevailing labor standards and reward those employers who pay the least to their employees. The Davis-Bacon Act serves the vital function of ensuring that Federal procurement policy does not act to drive down the wages of working Americans.

Opponents of the Davis-Bacon Act have created a number of inaccurate and mislead-

ing myths about the law. The most outrageous myth is that minority workers will somehow benefit from repeal. Our colleague from Texas, Mr. DELAY, has contended that repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act will "reduce discrimination against women and minorities that so often occurs within the construction industry." George Will has purported similar nonsense in his column. Mr. Will begins this fabrication by misrepresenting the circumstances that led to enactment of the Davis-Bacon Act, contending the law was enacted "to impede blacks competing for federally funded construction jobs." In fact, the law was supported by and enacted to protect contractors from the exploitative and predatory practices that were driving legitimate contractors out of the Federal construction market. Mr. Will goes on to claim that the law has a "disparate impact disadvantageous to minorities." The plain and simple truth is that the disadvantage under which minorities typically suffer is not that they are paid the prevailing wage, the same money for the same work that most workers receive, but that historically and continually they have been paid less. Implicit in both Mr. Will's and Mr. DELAY's assumptions are that minority workers are not as productive and therefore not worth the same wages as white, male workers.

The second myth that opponents of the law have perpetuated is that the law requires union wages or somehow protects unions. In fact, the law requires employers to pay the same wages that are found to be prevailing in the local area. A union wage prevails only if most workers in the area are union employees. Seventy-one percent of all wage-based determinations issued by the Department of Labor in 1994 were based on nonunion scales.

The final falsehood being perpetuated by opponents of the Davis-Bacon Act is that repeal is sound Government fiscal policy. As leading construction industry economists have recognized, however, there is a direct correlation between wage levels and productivity. Well-trained workers produce more value per hour than poorly trained workers, low wage workers. Economic studies have demonstrated that construction projects built by under-trained and under-paid workers cost more to build than those using trained workers. Recent studies clearly illustrate the impact that repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act will produce. When Utah's prevailing wage law was repealed, there was a decrease in apprenticeship training, the availability of skilled workers, and a decline in average construction wages. More importantly, lowering the standard of living of American workers by cutting their wages and fringe benefits will not translate to lower costs for any government, be it Federal, State or local.

The legislation I am introducing strikes a balance between two important goals. While retaining the protection the law affords to ensure that the Government policy does not undermine the living standards of our citizens, it also updates and modernizes several provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act, including limiting some of its reporting requirements and raising the coverage threshold. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the League of Women Voters and to express my pride and appreciation for the organization's work. The league was founded in 1919 by Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the American Women's Suffrage Association, at the organization's final convention.

The league's history actually began in 1948 at Seneca Falls, NY, the site of the first women's rights convention and the beginning of the struggle for women to obtain the right to vote.

As president of the Women's Suffrage Association, Carrie Chapman Catt led the final fight for the 19th amendment. Her brilliant strategy enabled women to receive the right for which they had fought so hard and so long. After 75 years, women won the right to vote.

Ms. Catt is a fitting symbol of the league, which is known for its outstanding research and commitment to keeping voters informed. Voters in my home town of Milwaukee and throughout the country depend on the league's information to make informed voting choices. It is said, "If you have a question, ask a member of the league."

The league continues to keep alive the legacy of Ms. Catt and the thousands of men and women who worked for women's suffrage. In Ms. Catt's words: "Winning the vote is only an opening edge * * * but to learn to use it is a bigger task."

FRIENDS OF BOSNIA

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of my colleagues to the efforts of the people of western Massachusetts to alleviate the suffering of the Bosnian people, who are the victims of a vicious war waged by the last Communist regime in Europe, while the United Nations, European Community, and even the United States Government has stood idly by and engaged in a disgraceful policy of appeasement.

I am very proud to be a part of this community which is reaching out to the people of Bosnia in every way which it can. Friends of Bosnia is a local group which has been active in trying to make people aware of what has happened, to call for greater international action to prevent genocide in Bosnia, and to provide concrete help to the people in Bosnia who have been forced from their homes, or as in Sarajevo, have lived in constant fear of death at the hands of Serbian artillery and sniper fire.

Friends of Bosnia has collected 9 tons of food, clothes, and medical supplies which,

working with the Scottish humanitarian group Edinburgh Direct aid, they are attempting to deliver to Sarajevo and Bihac. These cities, as my colleagues may recall, are two of the so-called safe havens which the UN and the international community have promised—and failed miserably—to protect.

This trip is anything but a vacation or a junket. Edinburgh Direct Aid supplies its volunteers with flack jackets and helmets and has suffered sniper fire during a past trip out of Sarajevo. During the time this group has been crossing the countryside of this bitterly divided area, there has remained the possibility that Serbian troops would not allow them entry into the "safe havens." In spite of the danger and the uncertainties, Sharon Webb and Glenn Ruga, cofounders of Friends of Bosnia, are traveling with the caravan in an effort to get the supplies to the people who need it the most.

Mr. Speaker, Edinburgh Direct Aid is today preparing to enter Sarajevo to distribute food and supplies. The 9 tons of food, clothes, and medical supplies from western Massachusetts will be used to meet a small part of the deep need for relief supplies in the safe havens. I am proud of the support from Friends of Bosnia. These efforts remind us of the best America has to offer, as well as the continuing suffering of the people of Bosnia. In contrast to the disgraceful dithering and appeasement of the international community, the efforts of the people of western Massachusetts give me a small measure of hope that we can learn from the past, and better our future.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO BISHOP PHILLIP A. BROOKS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Phillip A. Brooks. Bishop Brooks, Pastor of the New Saint Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ, has touched many lives nationally, locally and personally. Through his commitment to community service his contributions to the State of Michigan have pronounced him one of Detroit's most influential church leaders. He ministers to the poor, the rich, the elderly, the young, the homeless, and the jobless, improving the quality of their lives.

Bishop Brooks will be a guest speaker at Delta College on February 20, 1995 in celebration of African American History Month. He will speak on, "The Impact of the Black Church on Social, Political, and Economic Change—1895–1995," an issue on which Bishop Brooks has had great impact. He will be honored for his contributions to the community of Saginaw, and will be recognized for his contributions to the whole State of Michigan.

Since founding the New Saint Paul Tabernacle Church of God in 1956, Bishop Brooks has reached out to people throughout Michigan. The Bishop helped the St. Paul Tabernacle apply for a Head Start Grant and under his leadership and guidance the New Saint

Paul Head Start Agency was bought to life in 1993. As a result of this effort, four satellite centers in West Detroit assist needy families by providing over 340 children with educational instruction and hot meals. The program provides children with almost one third of their nutritional needs.

In order to promote African-American business ownership, Bishop Brooks joined with prominent African-American business and religious leaders to seek half ownership in channel 62, a historically black owned station established in 1975. The African-American community wanted channel 62, which was being sold to CBS, to remain in their hands.

Bishop Brooks is concerned about the spiritual, physical and mental wellbeing of his church, his neighbors, his friends and strangers. The Bishop transformed a 32-year-old building, threatened with destruction, into a first class senior citizen home. Attempts to revive the building by prominent business leaders failed, but under the leadership of Bishop Brooks, a \$3.6 million grant was awarded to the group from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Today, the home provides seniors with a safe and secure living environment.

Bishop Brooks opened his arms to the young by establishing the Grandmont-Rosedale Park Christian Day School in 1990. The school provides a Christian education to students from preschool through 12th grade. Bishop Brooks also operates a private school to train African-American entrepreneurs. Both of these are nonprofit organizations which demonstrate his commitment to education.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, Bishop Phillip A. Brooks is not just a leader in his church—providing family counseling, tutoring, singles ministry and senior outreach programs for congregation—but in his community and throughout the State. His generous contributions in a society fraught with growing social and economic difficulty should be applauded. I commend Bishop Brooks for his many accomplishments. He has truly made our world a better place.

INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESS MEALS DEDUCTION FAIRNESS LEGISLATION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, today Mrs. JOHN-SON, Mr. JEFFERSON, and I are introducing legislation which will repeal an unintended tax on hard-working, middle income Americans—truckers, long-haul bus drivers, train conductors, and other people regulated by the Department of Transportation.

The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 [OBRA] contained a provision which reduced the deductible portion of business meals and entertainment expenses from 80 percent to 50 percent. This legislation would allow employees who are required by Federal law and regulations for safety reasons to make mandatory rest periods away from home. Simply, this legislation restores the deduction to 80 percent for truckers, long-haul

bus drivers, train conductors, and others regulated by the Department of Transportation.

When the meals deduction was reduced from 100 percent to 80 percent, the crews of commercial vessels and people working on oil rigs were exempted. The reason for this exemption was that these individuals are required by law to be away from home and "eat out." This reasoning should continue to apply because those required by Federal law and regulations for safety reasons to take mandatory rest benefits away from home should be allowed to deduct these expenses. These meals are for safety reasons, not social reasons.

We need to pass this legislation to correct this tax injustice. This legislation allows the deduction of legitimate expenses required by Federal regulations. These are ordinary and necessary businesses, not lavish or extravagant expenses. I urge you to support this legislation.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1995

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today legislation to give small businesses greater incentive through the Internal Revenue Code to purchase equipment and machinery.

Under current law, section 179 of the Tax Code allows a deduction of up to \$17,500 for certain depreciable assets used in a trade of business. In view of the enormous costs encountered by businesses in these competitive times, this deduction is far too low.

I have pressed for increases in section 179 expensing for the last several years and believe that, as the cost of productivity-improving devices like machine tools and sophisticated testing equipment grows, the ability to deduct those costs should be enhanced.

My bill is very straightforward in increasing section 179 deductibility to \$50,000. Though it probably should be much higher to reflect its job-creating possibilities, its impact on tax revenues is not insignificant and must be dealt with in the Ways and Means Committee. I look forward to prompt action in the committee and trust that my colleagues will consider this measure during the upcoming debate.

77TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 1995

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Lithuanian American Council of Lake County, IN, and the Lithuanian community on the 77th anniversary of Lithuanian independence.

The Lithuanian American Council will celebrate Lithuanian independence, which oc-

curred in 1918 as the Lithuanians were freed from the Soviet Union. They will mark this joyous occasion on Sunday, February 19, 1995, at St. Casimir's Church in Gary, IN. Following tradition, the anniversary ceremony will begin with a church service starting at 11:30 a.m. After the church service, the Lithuanian American Council will hold a flag raising ceremony outside of St. Casimir to honor those Lithuanians who pledged their allegiance to independence for their people. The event will then conclude with a dinner in the church hall.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Lithuanian American Council of Lake County's officers, including: Vincent J. Gumulauskis, who has been president for 3 years; Pete D. Auksel and Casimir Balt, both of whom are vice presidents; Birute Vilutis, secretary; and Walter Ruzga, treasurer. Allow me to also commend the board of directors, whose members include Rev. Ignatius Urbonas, Aleksas Degutis, Alex Navardauskas, Dan Pauls, Frank Petrites, Brone Tampuskas, and Izidorius Tavaras. Finally, I would like to commend every member of the Lithuanian American Council for the loyalty and enthusiasm they have displayed toward their ethnicity.

The Lithuanian American Council of Lake County, IN is a branch of the Lithuanian American Council. It was founded in 1940 and originated in large cities such as Boston, Chicago, and New York. The organization in Lake County initially was headquartered at St. Francis in East Chicago, IN, until recently when the building was demolished. The organization was then moved to St. Casimir where its home is today.

It is my sincere hope that 1995 will bring renewed prosperity for all members of the Lithuanian community and their families. May this 77th anniversary celebration prove to be a most joyous occasion.

JESSIE WILLIAMS PRIDDLE

HON. BILL EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, there are so many who serve on Capitol Hill who contribute to the fabric of what this place is, but who never receive a great deal of public attention or acclaim.

For 18 years Jessie Williams Priddle, remembered by most of us as "Miss Williams," taught English in the Page School at the Library of Congress. Several of us serving here now, who had the privilege of having been pages in the House in our youth, have fond memories of Miss Williams as one who left a positive, good, and enduring mark on our lives.

She was a terrific teacher and had a sparkly personality, and was one of those teachers you never forget because she made it all so interesting.

Miss Williams passed away several days ago. She had a long and fruitful life and touched so well and favorably so many people, especially her students.

Her nephew, Paul Hays, the House Reading Clerk, has shared with me a brief biography of

Miss Williams, which I in turn wish to share for the benefit of her former students and all who knew her.

JESSIE WILLIAMS PRIDDLE

Jessie Lutetia Williams Priddle, 90, a former teacher at the Capitol Page School, died February 4 of heart and lung ailments at an Alexandria nursing home. Born in Hutchinson, KS, she attended public schools there, graduated from Southwestern College in Winfield, KS, and earned a masters degree in education from Columbia University.

She taught in elementary and secondary schools in Kansas and New York, and worked for the United Nations Works and Relief Agency [UNWRA] following the Second World War.

She moved to Washington in 1948, and with the exception of 1 year, taught English at the Page School in the Library of Congress until her retirement in 1967. Among her many students over the years were BILL EMERSON, PAUL KANJORSKI, JIM KOLBE, and TOM DAVIS among sitting Members, as well as former Members Bob Bauman and Doug Bosco, and the former Clerk of the House, Donn Anderson. She was granted a Fulbright fellowship for the 1955-56 school year to teach English as a foreign language in the southern Netherlands towns of Goes and Middelburg.

During her teaching years in Washington she was an active member of the National Presbyterian Church, singing regularly in its choir, and played violin with the Washington Civic Orchestra.

After her retirement from the Page School, she donated one semester of service as a visiting professor of English at her alma mater, Southwestern College. At the end of the semester the college hired her for the balance of the school year.

Returning to Washington in 1968, she became active in the D.C. League of Republican Women. She recalled her election to the league's board as having been the result of the organization's desire for some "younger" officers. She also volunteered in the local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter's program of teaching English to the predominantly Spanish-speaking foreign nurses in several local hospitals.

In 1973, she married Horley Priddle, a high school classmate with whom she had renewed her acquaintance at their class 50th reunion the previous summer. It was her first marriage. They traveled together widely, including an around-the-world tour shortly after their marriage.

Mr. Priddle died last July. She is survived by several nieces and nephews, including Paul Hays, the House Reading Clerk. Private services were held on February 11 in Clarks-ville, TN.

TRIBUTE TO BRYAN WITTMAN

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Bryan Wittman of Hamburg, NY.

It gives me great joy to share with everyone in the Congress the outstanding achievements of one of my constituents. Bryan is the son of Mrs. Norma Wittman of North Hampton Brook Drive.

Bryan, a native of my hometown of Ham-burg, NY, attended St. Peter and Paul Grade School and St. Francis High School. He graduated from Ashland University with a bachelor of arts degree in radio and television.

Bryan began his career in 1976 for the Erie County Fair and as entertainment director of the Darien Lake Theme Park in New York. He then moved on to become promotions director for the Ice Capades.

In 1985 Bryan began his adventure with Disney. While serving as manager of advertising and promotions for Marriott's Great America Theme Park in Chicago, IL, Wittman was recruited to Disney World in Orlando, FL, as senior promotions representative. In 1988 he was relocated to Disneyland in Anaheim, CA, where he became manager of promotions.

Continuing in his career advancement in 1991, Bryan became director of marketing for Disney.

As of February 2, 1995, he has been promoted to vice president for promotions, publicity, and special events.

Bryan's energy and imagination have been praised by Disney executives as his hard work and abundant successes are a testament to his strong character.

Speaking as a President of western New York, and as a Member of Congress, I applaud the outstanding accomplishments of Bryan Wittman.

THE MISSING SERVICE PERSONNEL ACT OF 1995, H.R. 945

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995, an important bill for those who care deeply about the POW/MIA issue.

This legislation will make important changes to sections 555 and 556 of the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1942 by reforming the Department of Defense's process for determining whether any member of the Armed Forces should be listed as missing in action. In so doing this bill will unveil the curtain of secrecy which currently surrounds any DOD decision concerning a person's status as missing in action.

Mr. Speaker, legislation pertaining to those missing in action have not changed over the past 50 years. As all of us who care deeply about this important issue know, the Department of Defense and the U.S. Government have been continually criticized for their handling of the POW/MIA issue since the Vietnam war. Accordingly, the time has come to make appropriate corrections in how the Government determines who in the Armed Forces should be classified as missing in action.

The bill I am introducing today will, in turn, ensure fairness to all concerned by involving family members, requiring legal representation, and by permitting Federal court review of all determinations. These significant changes will ensure that no soldier or sailor, currently listed as missing in action, will be declared dead without a full and fair review of all avail-

able evidence and until all possible considerations have been examined.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues who share their concern with the POW/MIA issue to support this important and fair legislation. This legislation is supported by the American Legion, by the Vietnam Veterans of America, the National Alliance of Families, and other POW/MIA organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting supporting letters from these organizations to be printed in the RECORD following by statement.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
Washington, DC, February 1, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,

U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GILMAN: The American Legion is extremely appreciative of your past efforts and actions to obtain the fullest possible accounting of American prisoners of war and those missing in action from previous conflicts and the Cold War. We are pleased to hear that you are again leading an effort to introduce legislation that will go even further toward addressing the plight of the missing and the concerns of their families.

The American Legion has supported the POW/MIA issue as a matter of the highest priority for many years. Your sponsorship of such a bill is significant for all who served in the past, those who now serve and those who will serve in the future. It also comes at a time when concern for our missing is becoming obscured by potentially lucrative business contacts with former adversaries. We must not let those who are missing be forgotten.

We recognize that the families of the missing and other veterans organizations have pertinent and valid views that may be considered for incorporation into any legislation dealing with the missing. It is also the opinion of the Legion that it is most imperative a bill be introduced as soon as possible on this issue.

The American Legion believes such legislation will provide a more equitable basis for making status determinations for all who are missing, and those who may be captured or otherwise become missing in future military operations.

Sincerely,

JOHN F. SOMMER, JR.,
Executive Director.

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.,

Washington, DC, February 6, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,

House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GILMAN: Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) salutes you for introducing "the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995." VVA's Board of Directors voted unanimously to put the full force of our organization in support of this legislation.

No group of veterans knows more about how divisive and bitter the unsettled questions about the fate of missing-in-action military personnel can be. Had such a law been in place during the Vietnam War, many of the over 2,200 unresolved POW/MIA cases would have been resolved long ago, and their families allowed a sense of closure and dignity for the loss of their loved ones.

Because the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995 would spell out in law a procedure for handling the very delicate question of how and when a member of the Armed Forces considered missing in action can be declared legally dead, we believe this legislation will correct mistakes realized in past wars. Al-

though the new procedure could take a year, it is a relatively short time compared to the decades of uncertainty MIA families have experienced in the past. We believe the process is not excessively complex, and does not create undue burdens upon the Department of Defense. Most importantly, families would know what to expect and would be spared years of turmoil and pain.

Quick action on the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995 will assure that the men and women of our nation's Armed Forces will not be subjected to the mistakes of the past. Vietnam Veterans of America will lobby actively in support of this bill, and we appreciate your introducing it.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. BRAZEE, JR.,
President.

N.Y. STATE POW/MIA
ACTION GROUP,
Utica, NY, January 20, 1995.

Re letter of support for your introduction of the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
Chairman, International Relations, Wash-
ington, DC.

Representative SUSAN MOLINARI,
Representative LEE HAMILTON,
Representative KAREN THURMAN.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES GILMAN; MOLINARI; HAMILTON; and THURMAN: On behalf of the members and supporters of the N.Y. State POW/MIA Action Group, I extend to you all our profound gratitude for your bipartisan sponsorship and cosponsorship, of the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995.

This Act is both long overdue, and well crafted. The MIA and their families deserve the peace of mind, and respect, that the Act provides.

Our support for this legislation is long-standing and we look forward to the entire New York State delegation's support, if not cosponsorship, for the Act.

We stand ready to assist you in your efforts on behalf of the Act, and hope and expect swift passage of this most important legislation. Thank you again.

MR. JOSEPH AMEROSA,
President.

AMERICAN DEFENSE INSTITUTE,
January 19, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN GILMAN: The Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995 is the most important piece of legislation written to comprehensively protect service members from wars past and future. Passage of this legislation, which you, Senator Dole, and Senator Lautenberg are sponsoring in the House and the Senate, will protect the service member's legal status from arbitrarily being changed from POW to MIA to "presumptive finding of death." This measure will also permit families to be better informed and give them authority to challenge adverse decisions in court.

Congressman, I want to thank you for introducing this bill, which is near and dear to my heart. I have personally seen many friends from years past "written off" by our government, despite their families' objections. You have performed a valuable service to the families of our missing men and to those members of the armed forces who are or will be missing in action. This bill has my full support.

Sincerely,

EUGENE "RED" MCDANIEL,
CAPT, USN (Ret).

VIETNOW,

Rockford, IL, December 23, 1994.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington,
DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN GILMAN: We, as Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, realize the importance and the immediate need for "The Missing Service Personnel Act," which is long over due.

The practice of changing the classification of those listed as Prisoner of War or Missing In Action to Killed In Action based on the presumption of death, due solely to the passage of time, is an outrage! In the proposed "Missing Service Personnel Act," "conclusive proof of death" is required to be established and based upon evidence that death is the only plausible explanation for the absence of the missing person.

Important provisions of this legislation, are the inclusion of family members in the review process, their access to information gained during the investigation and a set time frame for the review process.

Passage of the "Missing Service Personnel Act" is vital and will restore a sense of confidence not only to those effected by previous wars, but to those who may become Prisoner Of War or listed as Missing In Action as a result of future wars.

Congressman Gilman, we thank you for your support and would encourage you to re-introduce the "Missing Service Personnel Act" as one of the first items to be introduced before the House Of Representatives of the 104th Congress.

Sincerely,

RICH TEAGUE,

ViewNow National POW/MIA Chairman.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE,

January 20, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN GILMAN,
International Relations, Rayburn HOB, Wash-
ington, DC.

Representative SUSAN MOLINARI.

Representative LEE HAMILTON.

Representative KAREN THURMAN.

Re: Support for the Missing Service Person-
nel Act of 1995

DEAR MEMBERS GILMAN, MOLINARI, HAMIL-
TON, and THURMAN: The Marines and Auxil-
iary of the Department of New York, want to
make clear our deep and widespread thanks
to you all for your introduction of the Act of
1995. Individually, you are to be congrat-
ulated for your vision and courage to address
this element of the POW/MIA issue.

We are aware of all the work put into de-
veloping the language of this bill and salute
you for an excellent piece of legislation. This
Act of 1995, must pass as introduced. We also
recognize the work by staff and veteran and
POW/MIA organizations.

On behalf of those who have worn the uni-
form of the United States, those who wear it
today, and those who will wear it in the fu-
ture, and their families, may I express my
sincere gratitude for the introduction of the
Act of 1995, and your efforts to secure pas-
sage. We stand ready to assist you in this ef-
fort.

Yours truly,

JOSEPH WISE,

Commandant.

TASK FORCE OMEGA INC.,

Glendale, AZ, January 10, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington,
DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN GILMAN: The purpose
of this letter is to thank you for agreeing to

re-introduce The Missing Service Personnel
Act in the House of Representatives and to
encourage you, in the strongest possible
terms, to introduce the bill early this legis-
lative year.

I am the father of an Air Force pilot, Lt.
Col. Earl P. Hopper, Jr. who became Missing
in Action in North Vietnam on 10 January
1968—27 years ago this day. Statements of pi-
lots who were escorting him and his crippled
aircraft out of North Vietnam towards Laos
verify that he safely ejected from his air-
craft and was alive when he reached the
ground. There is other information to sup-
port the fact that my son survived his in-
cident and was captured to become a Prisoner
of War. In fact, a three-man Commission of
the Department of Justice reviewed my son's
case in 1982 and ruled that he was captured
and was a Prisoner of War based upon infor-
mation provided by it by the United States
Air Force and other Government agencies.

I gave 30 years of my life to my country in
the United States Army. I am a veteran of
World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Until I be-
came involved actively in the POW-MIA
issue upon my retirement in November 1969,
I had never witnessed the military services
nor the United States Government treat its
service men and women, and their families,
in such a blatant—and openly perfidious—
manner as they have the Prisoners of War
and Missing in Action of the Vietnam War.

In February 1980 I represented my son be-
fore a Status Review Hearing Board at Ran-
dolph Air Force Base, Texas. In order to rep-
resent my son at this hearing, I had to pay
for the travel, meals and lodging for my ci-
vilian attorney, my wife and myself. Across
the table I faced three Air Force Colonels,
each of whom had set on a minimum of
twelve previous Status Review Boards. In
each of the previous Status Review Board
hearings in which these Colonels partici-
pated, each of them voted in favor of chang-
ing the man's status from a living category
of Prisoner of War or Missing in Action to a
deceased category of Killed in Action. Inter-
estingly, in every status review case, none of
the Colonels ever voted to keep the man in a
POW-MIA status. In each of the hearings,
including my son's, there was never any pres-
entation of "proof of death" by the Air
Force.

In my son's case, it is a matter of record
that classified documents/information were
provided to the three Board members, but
neither I nor my attorney were allowed to
see them. This was also true at those Status
Review Board hearings held by the other
branches of the service.

The ruse of the military services to have
Status Review Board hearings was simply to
meet the minimal requirements set down by
the First Federal District Court of New York
in 1975 when it ruled that the old Missing
Persons Act of 1942 was unconstitutional—
both on its face and in the manner in which
it was being implemented by the military
services. The burden to prove a man is alive
rested upon the shoulders of the primary
next of kin of the POW-MIA. There is no re-
quirement, under the old act, to force the
military service to prove the individual is
dead before his status is changed to Killed in
Action. This action constitutes a procedure
wherein an individual is legally dead but
could very well be physically alive—a major
violation of the individual Prisoner of War or
Missing Person's civil rights.

Further, the old law does not provide the
next of kin the right to appeal an adverse
ruling by the military services. This violates
the principle used in the civilian justice sys-

tem, therefore the 1942 Act is prejudiced
against the POW-MIAs (a living category)
and their next of kin.

The manner in which the military services
have administered the Missing Persons Act
of 1942, and the Act itself, is arbitrary, cap-
ricious and very biased against the missing
Serviceman. In each case, without exception,
the Status Review Boards have recom-
mended a change of status for each and
every one of the POWs and MIAs from the
Vietnam War. (Note: One man was main-
tained in a POW status by the direction of
the Secretary of the Air Force only for
"symbolic" purposes after the review board
recommended a change in his status.) These
decisions were made with complete disregard
of the great volume of intelligence available
to—and presented to—the Review Boards be-
fore and during these individual hearings.

Your bill, The Missing Service Personnel
Act, allows all of the direct next of kin,
wives, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters,
sons, and daughters the rightful access to
government information and intelligence
which it receives on their respective loved
one. This is only correct and logical since
each of the principal relatives has the right
to know and to receive information on their
family member as well as the privilege—and
responsibility—to seek that knowledge.

The bill also brings into line the protection
of the civil rights of a military person equal
to that provided to civilian citizens of the
United States. The Missing Persons Act of
1942 does not provide that protection, there-
fore it is unconstitutional and must be
changed.

I can safely say that this bill, and its coun-
terpart in the United States Senate, would
be enthusiastically supported by a vast ma-
jority of the POW-MIA families. I also can
safely state that a large majority of the vet-
erans of this country would support these
Bills.

Rescinding the old law and the passage of
a new one by Congress would not only right
a wrong which has hovered over the heads of
military personnel since 1942, but would also
provide an assurance that the rights of a
serviceman or woman would be equal to that
granted to the civilian citizens of the United
States.

In view of the above, Congressman Gilman,
again I strongly urge you to re-introduce
The Missing Service Personnel Act in the
House of Representatives.

Respectfully,

EARL P. HOPPER, Sr.,

Colonel, United States Army, Retired.

LIVE POW LOBBY OF AMERICA,

Stewartstown, PA, December 21, 1994.

Re the Missing Service Personnel Act.

Representative BEN GILMAN (NY),

Longworth HOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. GILMAN, I understand that you
are prepared to introduce in 1995, The Miss-
ing Service Personnel Act. My organization
completely and 100% supports and induces
The Missing Service Personnel Act, as we are
a membership advocacy group, for a full ac-
counting of the POWs, who were captured
alive, but not released or accounted-for. Our
3,000 members, all, have asked me to forward
this letter to request your help in changing
the way in which we declare dead the once
captured prisoner cases.

The 83 U.S. Senators signed a letter to the
Postmaster General requesting that he have
a POW/MIA POSTAGE STAMP approved and
issued by May 1995—Memorial day. And, sev-
eral veterans groups, MIA family groups and
POW/MIA advocacy groups have asked that a
POW/MIA POSTAGE STAMP be issued.

The current Administration and the Department of Defense have made the accounting for the POW/MIA's a matter of the Highest National Priority and are committed to all efforts of show the American voters—that not all of the Americans who went missing, are yet accounted-for. The Department of Defense employs over 250 people, who work full time on trying to find missing Americans, lost in wars. The Russians and Americans have set up a task force that is working to find missing Americans, who after capture, ended up in the old Soviet Union. There are about 2,200 from Vietnam, 8,100 from Korea and 76,000 from WWII who are still missing—all who have been declared dead under an old out dated process. To honor the price POWs paid for freedom and their country, a more effective way of changing their status needs to be approved. Please feel free to share the Live POW Lobby of America's views with other Congressmen and Senators, so that they might take our views into consideration in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL VAN ATTA,
Chairman.

ALLENTOWN, PA,
February 2, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
U.S. House of Representatives, Rayburn House
Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GILMAN: Thank you for your support of the Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995. I believe that this important legislation will greatly improve the availability of information to the families of our M.I.A.'s both in the past and in the future.

We, as a government, owe to our armed forces the knowledge that any and all information on an M.I.A. will be communicated to that person's family. I urge you to please bring this bill to the House floor for a vote as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

DAVID E. BEGLEY,
U.S.M.C., Bien Hoa V.N. 1972.

GEOFFREY BRUEN,
Easton, PA, February 1, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
U.S. House of Representatives, Rayburn House
Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GILMAN: It is with great relief and pleasure that I write this short letter to you sir.

I want to thank you for being a champion to our cause and supporting the "Missing Service Personnel Act of 1995". Without you and your help to introduce this important bill, it might have gone by the wayside.

As a member of a Viet Nam Veterans Organization in Pennsylvania, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude on behalf of all of us.

God bless you.

Sincerely yours,

GEOFFREY BRUEN.

TASK FORCE OMEGA OF COLORADO,
Colorado Springs, CO, January 31, 1995.

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
Chairman, International Relations, Rayburn
House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN GILMAN: The membership of Task Force Omega of Colorado is made up of veterans, family members of those still listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War, and concerned citizens. Many of the members live in the Colorado Springs area, home of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Ft. Carson Army Base, Peterson

Air Force Base and U.S. Space Command and the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD).

Your efforts introducing the "Missing Service Personnel Act" to the 104th Congress are most appreciated by all of us here. We are proud of our men and women who currently serve in the military and want to see their rights protected, if ever any of them goes missing in defense of our Country.

The provisions of this piece of legislation will guarantee them their individual rights as members of this Nation's military force and as citizens of the United States of America. We applaud your diligence and express our gratitude for the work accomplished by you and your staff on this critical bill.

Thank you, congressman Gilman.

Very truly yours,

DAWN D. LINDSEY,
Chairman.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 1995, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 17

10:00 a.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe Briefing to assess the goals of United States assistance to Central and Eastern Europe and the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union.

2200 Rayburn Building

FEBRUARY 22

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Selective Service System, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Consumer Information Center, and the Office of Consumer Affairs.

SD-138

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Ryan White Care Act of 1990.

SD-430

10:00 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the state of the Federal Reserve System.

SD-106

FEBRUARY 23

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the military strategies and operational requirements of the unified commands.

SR-222

Labor and Human Resources

Education, Arts and Humanities Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965.

SD-430

2:00 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the structure and funding of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

SR-485

FEBRUARY 24

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the American Battle Monuments Commission, and Cemetery Expenses, Army.

SD-138

FEBRUARY 28

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Postal Service.

SD-116

MARCH 1

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Endowment for the Arts.

SD-192

Governmental Affairs

To resume hearings on proposed legislation to reform the Federal regulatory process, to make government more efficient and effective.

SD-342

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans.

345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Farm Credit Administration, and the Food and Drug Administration of

the Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-138

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of State.

S-146, Capitol

11:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

SD-192

MARCH 2

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Transportation.

SD-192

MARCH 3

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Credit Union Administration, the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Resolution Trust Corporation-Inspector General.

SD-138

MARCH 6

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

SD-192

MARCH 7

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Commerce.

S-146, Capitol

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to review Federal programs which address the challenges facing Indian youth.

SR-485

MARCH 8

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

SD-116

Governmental Affairs

To resume hearings on proposed legislation to reform the Federal regulatory process, to make government more efficient and effective.

SD-342

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for rural economic and community development services of the Department of Agriculture.

SD-138

MARCH 9

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Transportation Safety Board.

SD-192

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Secret Service, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury.

SD-192

MARCH 10

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Science Foundation, and the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

SD-138

MARCH 15

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Smithsonian Institution.

SD-116

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for farm and foreign agriculture services of the Department of Agriculture.

SD-138

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Justice.

Room to be announced

MARCH 16

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug

Enforcement Agency, both of the Department of Justice.

S-146, Capitol

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation.

SD-192

MARCH 17

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

SD-138

MARCH 22

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

SD-192

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture.

SD-138

MARCH 23

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, and the National Passenger Railroad Corporation (Amtrak).

SD-192

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the United States Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

SD-192

MARCH 24

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-138

MARCH 27

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Executive Office of the President, and the General Services Administration.

SD-138

MARCH 28
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.
SD-116

MARCH 29
10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Agricultural Marketing Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, all of the Department of Agriculture.
SD-138

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Judiciary, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Judicial Conference.
S-146, Capitol

MARCH 30
9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Vietnam Veterans of America, Blinded Veterans Association, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.
345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation.
SD-192

MARCH 31
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Court of Veteran's Appeals, and Veterans Affairs Service Organizations.
SD-138

APRIL 3
2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, and the Office of Personnel Management.
SD-138

APRIL 4
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Na-

tional Park Service, Department of the Interior.
SD-138

APRIL 5
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
SD-192

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Agricultural Research Service, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, Economic Research Service, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service, all of the Department of Agriculture.
SD-138

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Bureau of Prisons, both of the Department of Justice.
S-146, Capitol

APRIL 6
2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of the Treasury and the Office of Management and Budget.
SD-116

APRIL 26
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for energy conservation.
SD-116

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Food and Consumer Service, Department of Agriculture.
SD-138

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Legal Services Corporation.
S-146, Capitol

11:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for fossil energy, clean coal technology, Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and the Naval Petroleum Reserve.
SD-116

APRIL 27
10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.
SD-192

MAY 2
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture.
SD-138

MAY 3
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Environmental Protection Agency, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.
SD-192

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Department of Agriculture.
SD-138

MAY 4
10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation.
SD-192

MAY 5
9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for Environmental Protection Agency science programs.
SD-138

MAY 11
10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.
SD-116

1:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1996 for the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.
SD-116

SD-192

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-